

his own personal advantage, and hence arise partialities, schisms, and divisions.

9.

Meekness induces us to bear with the defects and injuries of our neighbour, in order to attract him by this means to the knowledge and love of God.

10.

Curiosity is a pest in a spiritual life. It was by curiosity our first parent fell, and that hunger, sickness, death, and all other evils entered into the world. We should, therefore, shun it as the source of all vices.

11.

We often desire many good things, and fancy these desires come from God, although they spring from a very different source. God sometimes permits this, in order to prepare us gently for the dispositions of his Providence.

12.

Who can be more perfectly united to God than he who does only the will of the Lord, who never seeks his own will, and who consults in everything only the good pleasure of God?

13.

The thought of God's presence familiarises us to the practice of doing his will in all things.

14.

We should always select a proper time for correction. We should reprove for the first time with great meekness and affability; the second time with a great severity and gravity, seasoned, however, with meekness; the third time with zeal and firmness, convincing the guilty that this is the last remedy we will use.

15.

The superior should not appear as

superior and master. Nothing is more false than to allege that in order to govern well and maintain authority, we should make it be felt that we are superiors. Jesus Christ has taught us the contrary by word and example.

16.

Gratitude for graces received is one of the best means for obtaining new graces.

17.

The life of a labourer in the Gospel has for its foundation the denial of himself and the imitation of the life of Jesus Christ, and his Apostles.

18.

Voluntary and necessary poverty makes us turn to God, and have recourse to him, whilst abundance often makes us forget God.

19.

A just man who abandons humility is rejected and reprov'd by God, in spite of all his good works; and that which seems in him to be virtue, is only vice.

20.

Meekness and forbearance towards our neighbour are a source of peace, and a bond of perfection by which hearts are united.

21.

Learning without humility, has been always injurious to the church, and as pride caused the fall of the rebel angels, so it is often the ruin of learned men. The most ignorant of the devils knows more than the most acute philosopher, or the most profound theologian.

22.

Ecclesiastics are the living images of the power and goodness of the Creator.