

to me my Julia. I returned often before him as a woman in bitterness of spirit, to repent to him my prayers, and the words of Hannah were applied to my soul, which took hold of them as a promise, "for this child I prayed: and the Lord hath given me my petition which I asked of him." (1st Sam. i. 27.) Since that time I have continued to pray and to wait with confidence. Whenever I met her, my heart would instantly remind the Lord that "for this child I prayed." In this way more than a year and a half passed by, at the end of which time one of the good effects of the first rebellion was to bring back the children of this family to the school. Julia's heart and mine shouted Halleluiah. This was one of the numerous instances in which I could say with gratitude, "I know that thou hearest me always." Julia's disposition was not at all changed. She resumed her lessons with much zeal, and listened still to the gospel with her heart. Soon the good seed took root and bore fruit, and the truth showed her the deceit of the Romish Church, and gradually she became established in the ways of Christ. Her parents were at first delighted at the progress which she and her sister made, in the hope that they might by their instruction be able to gain their livelihood more easily than they had done, and thus be removed from want. But when they noticed at length that Julia no longer made the sign of the cross, that she no more prayed as they did, her mother punished her in order to compel her to do it, but could not induce her. Lent came, her mother went to confession, the curate insisted upon the children's being removed from the school, and required that Julia should come and confess, and be instructed in the catechism in order to take the first communion. The poor woman, who was very ignorant, had a great conflict. She wanted to obey the curate, who threatened to expel her from the church if she did not, but she had also much respect for me and confidence in me. She was certain that her children would only learn what was good at the school. They had already made great improvement, and she desired to have them instructed, and therefore could not decide to take them away. However, she commanded Julia to go to confession. Julia refused absolutely. Her mother then said that she would drag her there by force on the day appointed by the curate. The dear child was in great anguish, and entreated the Lord to deliver her. The day before the terrible one anticipated, she prayed much, and the next morning her joy was great when she saw that God had answered her prayer, by causing the weather to be so stormy that it was impossible to attempt to go so far as the curate's. She then

had a short respite; but soon her parents began again to torment her, and tried every means to make her learn the catechism, but could not succeed either by harsh treatment or by promises. She said, she would rather suffer herself to be beaten by her parents, and thrust out of her home, than forsake the Saviour and follow the curate. I dreaded very much their coming to this, not on the child's account, whom I would at once have taken into my house, for I had for a long time desired to have her, but on account of the bad impression it would make upon those Catholic families that have children at the school. I therefore kept my hands stretched out to the Lord, entreating him to conduct this matter to a good result. The struggle was too great for Julia, who was tormented with the fear that her parents would take her away from the school, and oblige her to go to the curate. She was taken sick, and had been so some days at the time of our meeting with the curate. Her mother, who was present at this meeting, was inquired of by the curate if she had taken her children away from the school. She was exceedingly embarrassed between us two, and replied with much hesitation and stammering, and made no promise for the future. He asked to see her children. She hastened to bring them, but could only make Julia come by means of blows, for to this poor child a priest is the king of terrors. She at length arrived half dead, but the curate was too much engaged with us to attend to her. She heard, however, all his conversation, and said afterwards, "I am now more sure than ever that he is a deceiver and a wicked man, and that I ought not to listen to him." Since that time she has been constantly sick and ailing, and I fear she will fall into a consumption. Her mother seeing her failing, has said nothing more about confession or catechism, but has passed whole days in weeping because she feared her daughter was going to die, and was not a Catholic. The poor woman is an object of pity. She is a tender mother in her way, and is anxious to have her daughter follow the religion of her fathers and her country. She has no notion of what the gospel is, and can only look upon this change as a calamity. At the time when Julia was lowest she showed no fear of death. When I inquired of her "if she had not deserved to go to hell?" "Oh! yes," she said, "because I have been very wicked, but I am no more afraid, and I shall not be cast out there, for I have faith in Jesus." Now she is a little better, thanks to God, who has blessed the remedies I have administered; but I am impatient to know what the parents mean to do. I hope that as soon as her health permits, she will return to the school,