

vidence that he should defend and assist us.

18

Calumnies and persecutions are favors which are bestowed by God, on those who serve him faithfully. They are means employed by the Divine Wisdom to sanctify souls the more, and to wean them from every thing that could prevent them from being perfectly united to him.

19

We should look upon others as our superiors, and submit to them, although they are beneath us, rendering them every kind of respect and attention.—Oh! how glorious and advantageous would it not be for us, if the goodness of God should strengthen us in a habit like this.

20

We must make ourselves all to all, and accommodate ourselves to the inclination of every one, in order to gain all to Jesus Christ.

21

Simplicity directs our actions, and induces us to act for God alone, both in temporal affairs and in spiritual works; it drives away from them every mixture of hypocrisy, artifice, and vain presumption.—Yes, provided God be served and glorified, let us pay no attention to what men can say or do.

22

He that has true humility, considers himself the most imperfect of all men; he looks upon himself as a criminal; he

considers it a secret blindness, that he cannot perceive the faults which every one sees in him.

23

To form a correct judgment of the excellence and perfection of any one's prayer, we need only be acquainted with his dispositions, and the fruit that he derives from that holy exercise.

24

When we receive the afflictions which God sends us, with entire and perfect resignation, they become great blessings in our regard, as conformity to God's will is an advantage, far superior to all temporal gains.

25

When we feel ourselves moved by a vehement desire to perform any important, nay holy work, we should defer it until another time, and wait until our hearts shall be in a state of tranquillity and indifference, in order that self love may not sully the purity of our intention.

26

The most obstinate sinners are gained and brought over to repentance only by mildness, by compassion for their weakness, and by sensibility for their misfortunes.

27

We should apply ourselves principally in prayer, to combat the passions or evil inclination which is predominant in us; we should mortify it by continual vigilance, because when it is once destroyed, we will easily obtain a victory over all the others.