

In our new prison we spent many happy, and even joyful moments. Our prayer was continual, and we composed a canticle that became our amusement and our consolation.

"O my God, it is thought thy holy will that we bear these chains; accept our sufferings and sustain our courage.

"Driven far from thy sacred abode, wherein labor for Thee was so sweet; ah! to whom shall we appeal against the crimes of those traitors?

"O my God, be thou our benefactor; turn our sorrow into joy; preserve our dear country from the crime of schism; this is our only prayer.

"O hand-maids of the Lord! let us suffer for our divine Master! Ah! if we combat for Him; He will wipe away our tears, and show us the triumph of our faith.

"Then shall we cast away our chains, and be freed from the anguish of captivity. Blessed be thy will. O my God; Thou wilt crown us in heaven."

Michalewicz went around every day from one prison to the other, with a paper destined to receive our apostasy. "Why do you resist uselessly? he said; your Sisters have already renounced the church of Rome; here is the formula they have signed; they are now free and happy, *and are just now taking their tea*. Come now, my children, sign this; *your tea is ready*." Then turning to me: "Well, my Lady Abbess, had you not better become worms. Come, sign this paper; your other Sisters have already signed it."

This is the way he tried to deceive us. We trembled for each other. At last I heard a voice telling me: "*Seize that paper*." I snatched it from the hands of the apostate; I opened it..... it was perfectly blank!

Ah! you traitor, Judas, liar, you envoy of Lucifer! go back to your master."

He had no stick with him, so he contented himself with filling my mouth with worms and filth, and went away enraged.

When the novena was over, we were taken from our prisons and brought back again to our hard labor. Finding ourselves *all* at our wheel-barrows again, we saluted each other with ineffable joy. "Oh! dear Mother! exclaimed all my Sisters, you are then with us