

18.

When we consider the virtue of humility only in a speculative manner, it seems beautiful, lovely, and wonderful; but when there is question of practising it, we find it most repugnant to nature. We are displeased with what it requires, because it wishes us always to take the lowest place, to put ourselves beneath those with whom we live though they are our inferiors, to bear calumnies without a murmur, to seek for contempt, to love subjection. Now, we have a natural aversion from all these things.

19.

We should not for all the wealth of the world permit the least thing against God, or our own conscience.

20.

Afflictions are the most certain pledge that God can give us of the love he bears us.

21.

Retreat and silence are absolutely necessary to those who labour for the salvation of souls.

22.

A superior should endeavour by a holy management to prevent any abuse or faults that are likely to happen, for it is much easier to prevent them beforehand than to correct them afterwards.

23.

It is not always suitable to do everything that one can. We should rather

confine ourselves to what charity requires, and what is conformable to Gods will, taking our Lord for our model in this respect, who did not wish to do all that was possible for him.

24.

It is certain that by labouring for our own perfection we render ourselves more capable of promoting the perfection of others.

25.

He that puts his confidence in men, and who, relying on his natural talents, or fortune, does not place his reliance in God, separates himself from God.

26.

The maxims of the Gospel are entirely opposed to those of the world.

27.

Nothing is more injurious to a community than to be governed by superiors that are too weak, and that are anxious to please others, and to make themselves beloved.

28.

Interior recollection preserves us from dissipation, which is the source of tepidity in those who from their state of life are bound to inspire others with fervour and the fear of God.

29.

The state of him that suffers for God is most happy and most agreeable to the divine Majesty, since the Son of God himself wished to crown the hero-