

8

If we consider every thing earthly and imperfect that is to be found in us, we should have many motives for humbling ourselves before God and men, and even before our inferiors.

9

Our love for our neighbour should not be an earthly love, produced by natural inclination, which in general is hurtful rather than the contrary ; it ought to be a love, that beholds God alone in everything that it loves, it should be a love founded in God, according to God, and entirely for his sake.

10

A proof of a vocation to the ecclesiastical state, is not to seek to be admitted into it, and not to employ entirely human means for that purpose.

11

Let us say to God, and also to ourselves ; of those thoughts that come into my mind, I will express only that which is weaker, in order humble me, and I will conceal that which is brighter, to make a sacrifice of it to God in the secret of my heart. It is in simplicity of words and actions that the spirit of Jesus Christ resides ; in vain shall we seek it elsewhere.

12

The best arms for the destruction of hypocrisy, and all carnal prudence are simplicity and candour.

13

To dwell in a house where fraternal

charity reigns, is to live in heaven, for there is nothing more desirable, or more delightful, than to live with those whom you love, and by whom you are loved in return.

14.

One should respect those sublime kinds of prayer, those unions and passive prayers which many persons have taught and which certain souls practice who are chosen and conducted by God himself in extraordinary ways ; but those prayers which seem most perfect, are not always the most sure : we should therefore apply ourselves to a more simple and humble manner of prayer, until the Holy Ghost himself shall raise us to a high degree of contemplation.

15.

Every thing that God gives us, or takes from us, always turns to our advantage, since such is his good pleasure : it is our duty to conform to this holy will of God, in which all our perfection and all our happiness should consist.

16

The works of God generally proceed by slow degrees ; when God employs us upon them, we should use the means suggested by the spirit of Jesus Christ, and conformable to the maxims of his gospel, and not to the false maxims of the world.

17

When God makes us undertake anything difficult, or exposes us to any grievous suffering in his service, or for his glory, it is consonant to his pro-