

of God, for acquiring reputation or honour?

16.

When humble souls are ordered to do any thing, they endeavour to do it cheerfully, no matter what may be its difficulties, and rely entirely on the strength of obedience; if they are assaulted by temptation, they ground themselves more in humility; and thus, the very attacks of the devil, make them triumph over pride, the last enemy whom they have to combat.

17.

Superiors who love to be contradicted and despised, do not meet with great obstacles in the exercise of their authority; they look upon themselves as the servants of others; the eyes of their understanding are always fixed on their great model Jesus Christ, who bore so patiently with the blindness, the jealousy, the incredulity and the other imperfections of his disciples.

18.

The numberless benefits which God bestows on us, as well as those which he promises, should induce us never to act for our own glory, but to perform all our actions for the greater glory of God.

19.

If pride tempts us to exalt, we should humble ourselves; if it urges us to thoughts of self-esteem, we should think on our weakness and imperfection; if it tempts us to ostentation, we should abstain from every thing that would cause us to be remarked, and

prefer mean and humble employment to those that are great and honourable.

20.

The state of sickness is most inconvenient and insupportable to nature: it is nevertheless one of the most powerful means which God employs to remind us of our duty, to make us renounce our evil inclinations, and to fill us with his grace.

21.

When God begins to pour out his blessings on a creature, he never stops until it renders itself unworthy of its favours.

22.

When the maxims of human reason are followed instead of those of faith, little progress is made in virtue, and little success is obtained in matters where the glory of God is concerned.

23.

We may sometimes convince our understanding by solid and spiritual reasons; nevertheless, those reasons should always be subordinate to the truths of faith.

24.

As it is the property of fire to give light and heat, so it belongs to charity to communicate its lights and ardour.

25.

We should consider but God alone in all men, and we should honour his Divine perfections in them; this thought