

II. Let burial in our churches be denied to persons of a base character, although, in their life-times, they have been ever so much our friends, lest the world surmise that we hunt after riches, by the numbers of the deceased, and come to a knowledge of what we gain by them.

III. Let widows and others who have given us almost all they possessed, (though then they are on equal footing with others) be treated with much more rigour; lest people should imagine their greater indulgence proceeds from our hopes of secular advantages. The same method should be also observed with such as are in the Society, but this must be after they have entirely given up all into our hands; and if ever after there be a necessity for it, let them be dismissed; but this must be done with such discretion, that they may be induced to leave to the order, part at least of what they formerly gave us; or bequeath it by will, at the time of their death.

CHAP. XVII.

Of the methods of advancing the Society.

I. Let our members chiefly endeavor at this, always to act with humanity, even in things of trifling moment; or at least to have the outward appearance of doing so; for by this means, whatever confusions may arise in the world, the Society of necessity will always increase and maintain its ground.

II. Let all earnestly endeavor so to shine in their learning and good example, that other religious, especially those of the clergy, &c. may be eclipsed, and the common people at length drawn in to request us to discharge every office. And let it be also publicly declared, that a very great fund of learning is not so absolutely necessary in pastors, provided in all other respects they discharge their duty as they ought; for the Society can assist with advice on emergencies, for which reason it has good offices of this sort in a particular esteem.

III. Let kings and princes be kept up in this principle, that the Catholic faith, as matters now stand, cannot subsist without the civil power, which however must be managed with the greatest discretion. By this means our members will work themselves into the favor of persons in the highest post of government, and consequently be admitted into their most secret councils.

IV. It will be also proper to entertain their curiosity with the newest, choicest, and most genuine transcripts that can be purchased from all places.

V. Nor will it contribute a little to our advantage, if, with caution and secrecy, we foment and heighten the animosities that arise among princes and great men, even to such a degree, that