

knowing of the abyss, a few yards distant, that was to swallow us up. My whole being shudders when I think of it ! A quarter of an acre further on was a cascade followed by several others, and the current was so rapid that we could not avoid them. At this sight, my companions, instead of looking up to God and imploring His divine mercy, gave vent to all the rage and fury of despair, and uttered blasphemies that the devils of hell alone could suggest to them. For my part, their excessive impiety disgusted me and made me enter into myself. At the very moment when the raft was going to be swallowed up in the chasm, I cried out with a lively confidence : — St. Anne, save me from peril and I promise to have a mass celebrated in your honour, and to repent sincerely.—I could say nothing more, for a moment later, we were all cast into the waves, senseless and on the brink of eternity !

This accident happened at about six o'clock in the evening. The next morning, at daybreak, I recovered my senses, and found that I was resting on the trunk of a tree which had been washed ashore. It was then my tears began to flow : I wept so long and so abundantly that the ground was moistened. How sincere was my thanksgiving for so miraculous an escape ! Heaven, Saint Anne had saved me. My companions were certainly lost, and in what state ? O my God ! The remembrance of my pious mother, who had taught me such christian sentiments, filled my heart with emotion. I promised to be grateful towards her for such an inheritance, during the remainder of my life.

I staid on my knees for nearly an hour, thanking God, thanking the Blessed Virgin and Saint Anne, thanking all the Saints in heaven, and forming the firm resolution of spending the rest of my days in the practice of virtue, and the service of God. I then arose, and after having eaten some roots and