

not deserve it. Ordain my abode after death,—I will not fail to bless you in hell, if you choose to send me thither; I will there praise your mercies and the love that you will have had for me, and I will say that I have rendered myself unworthy of it. There I will love you, and then I will offer you my pains there; accomplish your will with respect to me. But since the great Saints have suffered for you so much in this life, cause that I as soon as possible be worthy to suffer what they have suffered,—that I may endure and die for the faith."

This good man did not then think that he was heard, being entirely alone in the Chapel; but one of our Fathers, who happened to come in at the end of his prayer, had sufficiently good ear to gather some fragments of it,—and, among others, this little that I have just related. And, some time after, the Father having asked him who [35] had taught him that prayer, he answered: "No one; but I felt in the depth of my heart that Our Lord was reproaching me at the little that I have done for him. As he made me see, at the same time, the love which he has borne for me, and the love which Saint Paul and so many Holy Martyrs have borne for him, I was ashamed to love him so little; and I knew not where to hide myself, in that confusion, if not in Hell. I had no horror of it, not thinking then of any other thing save that I would be willing to suffer everything for God."

This good man will remain for hours, and sometimes almost whole nights, in Prayer,—and that usually two, three, or four times a day, in the middle of the Chapel, notwithstanding the greatest rigors of the cold, his head, feet, and legs all bare, covered