

CHAPTER V.

THE SPECIAL DEVOTION OF LOUISE TO THE CROSE
OF OUR LORD, TO THE BLESSED SACRAMENT, AND
TO THE SOULS IN PURGATORY.

LOUISE always manifested a great devotion to the Holy Cross. In the sowing season, in order to draw down God's blessing on the crop, she each year presented to her spiritual director the seed-corn, to ask him to bless it. She then went through the great harvest field and the fields of the Indians, digging up a little piece of ground in the shape of a cross to plant her grain in. During the whole time that she maintained this practice, it was every year observed, that the crop was very abundant and very fine, even when the neighbors all around lost their grain. She had learned that heaven and earth had been disunited, and that the Cross had reconciled them; that no one can enter into heaven except by the way of the Cross. She sowed her grain in the form of a cross, having implicit confidence that our Lord, who died on the cross, would fructify it. The Cross was her refuge on earth; it was her strength and consolation till death. We may here repeat those beautiful words of the venerable Bishop Challoner: "Jesus is delivered into the