

a good book. Lanarpe became converted while reading the "Imitation of Christ ;" the learned Ampère knew it by heart.

Can you venture to doubt, dear readers, that Good St Anne blesses with tender effusion those who piously read the message from her shrine that she sends them every month ? Take the most debauched young man, the father least attentive to his religious duties, and if you can succeed in making them read the *Annals* of St Anne assiduously, I venture to state that you will infallibly obtain their return to God.

These considerations replete with truth and good sense should attach you more and more to your precious bulletin. And ye promoters what say ye of it ? Have you ever so clearly realized that the propagation of the *Annals* of St Anne is an apostolic work ? By your zeal in diffusing them, you contribute to the maintenance of faith among our people, you labor, for the perseverance of the good and the conversion of sinners ; in a word, you aid in the redemption of souls. Therefore in addressing this letter to you, we are sure that the majority of our readers will heartily coincide with us. Nevertheless I hear a couple of discordant voices amidst this unanimous concert and with your permission will bring them into harmony before saying : "*Au revoir.*"

The first says : " But your *Annals* are too serious, they are too simple for educated people. " I reply : " But, dear Madam or dear Sir, God is terribly serious, heaven is serious, your conscience, if you have not obliterated it, is very serious, the soul's salvation is a very serious matter, death is very serious, eternity is a very serious thing. To close one's eyes to all these great things so as not to be frightened by their seriousness, practically means to renounce one's place in paradise. You must therefore submit to serious things in your life if you wish to save your soul. Only I am happy to remind you that *serious* does not in the least mean *tedious* and *sad*. Seriousness mingles very well with joy and the most thrilling happiness. Therefore, without contradicting myself, I would add : God is the essential joy, heaven is the abode of happiness ; your conscience, if it be pure, is as a continual feast ; the salvation of the soul is a triumph ; death — I mean happy death — is the threshold of the paternal home ; the eternity of heaven is an intoxication. " *Inebriantur* ", says the prophet.

You find our *Annals* too simple for educated people. But truth is simple ; the Gospel is simple ; Jesus-Christ, simple as a child, has said : " Except ye become as little children, ye shall not enter the Kingdom of heaven. " Simplicity makes a very good appearance beside