

After that Penance, one of these good Neophytes came to see the Father in private, and said to him, with his heart oppressed with woe: "Alas, that I should offend God [13] so grievously! I had not yet defiled my Baptism; I had not yet strayed far from the road. The Devil deceived me, and the liquor upset my mind. I have no comfort when I think of my sin." He uttered these words mingled with sobs, which he tried to repress, but his sorrow revealed itself.

"I know not," said another, "whether what animates me is good. When I am in the Chapel, and think of my sins, tears come to my eyes; I feel my face quite wet, and I say to myself: 'It is my heart that should weep and not my eyes.' Is that good?" said he, "because it often happens to me for sins that I committed before my Baptism. I feel these same regrets, when I see that my people do not obey God as they should."

A widow, who was very poor and forsaken, was married in the fashion of the Savages. She allowed herself to be cajoled by a Pagan, who deceived her. She felt such regret for her fault that, after asking pardon publicly in Church, she said to the Father that when she felt the pains of her pregnancy she wished for death, in order to expiate her crime. [14] "I entreat God every day," she said, "to punish me. When I see women who scoff at me, when I hear them jesting about my sin, I say to myself: 'I have well deserved this.' I answer nothing and remain quite ashamed. It is just that I should suffer all my life. I was greatly afraid that I would be expelled forever from the house of Prayer." When she sometimes went to the Ursulines, she kept her child away