

flung into a hole like a common sewer, for fear that he might infect the air with his body, as he had polluted it with his vices and his apostasy.

"I cannot doubt," says the Father who has given us these remarks, "that the soul of that woman is in Heaven, of which I will offer this well-founded conjecture. When I was asking her whether she did not fear death, she answered me, 'Not at all; my heart yields me evidence that I believe in God; this is what consoles me and makes me hope soon to enter the heavens.' 'If that be the case,' I say to her, 'remember in that abode of glory and pleasure,—after thou shalt have thanked thy Lord and thy God for having so lovingly converted thee, and for having placed thee in his Paradise,—remember to ask him for the conversion of thy mother; entreat him to give her intelligence, and love for the Faith.' 'I will not fail in this,' [242] she answers; and,—what, in truth, is very remarkable,—shortly after her decease, her mother is deeply moved. I may say, in truth, that her so sudden conversion has been one of my greatest astonishments; this woman became not only a good Christian, but pliable, docile, and very fervent. Before she had surrendered herself to her God, she jeered incessantly at prayers,—they were afterward her whole pleasure; she regarded us with as much favor as she had had horror, both of us and of our words. Her family, following her example, adores Jesus Christ. She was offered a fairly advantageous match for a daughter of hers; she would never accept it although she was in great need,—saying that God would not be served in this marriage, since that young man had not the firmness of a Christian."