

able to make to three or four infants, who wept as they were pressed to her bosom. She beheld them die in her arms, one after another, and had not even the strength to cast them into the grave. She expired under this burden; but with her dying breath she said: "Yes, My God, you are the lord of our lives; we shall die, since you will it; but how good it is, that we should die Christians. I would have been damned, and my children with me, had we not died in affliction. They have received holy Baptism; and I firmly believe that, being companions in death, we shall rise all together."

Another mother, perceiving that she would be the first to die, left—with the same peace as if she were falling into a sweet slumber—upon her bosom two poor orphans, who continued to suck from her after her death, and who died upon their mother [15] as quietly as formerly they had slept there, when they drew from her both milk and life.

Many, when dying, commended their souls to God; others bade their children think only of him, since he, and no other, would be their Father through eternity. Some, having sold for a meal of acorns, boiled in water, the single possession which remained to them of all their goods,—and which they had reserved in order that they might not die in as naked a condition as they had issued from the wombs of their mothers,—finding themselves thus despoiled, said to God, while awaiting the death that was at hand: "Yes, my God, I have nothing more on earth, and my heart cannot be attached to it. I await with joy the death which formerly I so much dreaded; but it is in the hope which your faith affords me, that I