

the whole course of her vocation, and worshipping with love God's operations in her guidance. In a word, she made ready for that long voyage of a thousand leagues in a straight line, and of more than three thousand in the detours and tacks that had to be made.

Monsieur the Archbishop, learning that the choice of the two Mothers was made, summoned them to his Palace, where this holy old man gave them his blessing. He urged them to embrace with courage the Cross of the son of God,—using the same words that our Lord uttered to his Apostles upon sending them on their Missions, and making them sing the Psalm, *In exitu Israel de Ægypto, etc.*, and the Song of the blessed Virgin, *Magnificat anima mea Dominum, etc.* He dismissed them, with astonishment at seeing the strength and constancy of those three Amazons, for Madame their foundress was of the party.

[158] After receiving his benediction and that of her parents, she had to take leave of her dear Mother Prioress and her dear sisters. The greater number envied her happy lot, although some trembled at the thought of the dangers she might encounter by land and sea. Be that as it may, she departed from Tours with her dear companion, on the twentieth day of February in the year sixteen hundred and thirty-nine. She was then only twenty-two and a half years old; and nevertheless, in all the journeys that had to be made,—from Tours to Paris, from Paris to Diepe, and from Diepe to new France,—and in all the company that she met,—at the Court, in private houses, or in the Monasteries of Nuns,—she left everywhere