

of myrrh and hid it in her bosom with love; and when he denied her this favor, she made Crosses for herself, and sought for self-inflctions that would very soon have borne her away from this world, had not her Superiors set bounds and limits to her fervor.

Knowing, as she did, the malice and cunning of the daughter of Adam—I mean, of corrupt nature—she had a marvelous adroitness not only in killing it, but also in preventing her sisters' Charity from affording her any relief. It gave her offense to tell her that her infirmities exempted her from observing the rules of the Community; and a formal contest ensued when she was urged to take some rest in her weakness, unless the latter were [167] extreme. Her resistance did not consist in a little compliment formed merely by her lips; but was based on a perception of her lowliness, and a belief that she was a burden to her Community. In other matters she yielded easily and submitted readily to those who governed her, when they did not listen to her arguments—a thing which happened very seldom; for her eloquence was great when she pleaded the cause of Jesus Christ's sufferings against the effeminacy of the old Adam.

OF HER DEVOTION TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN AND TO
SAINT JOSEPH.

IT is very difficult to love Jesus without loving Mary, or to honor Mary without respecting saint Joseph. I can say with truth that that holy family gave the first, the noblest, and the most constant occupation to Mother Marie de saint Joseph, during all the years of her earthly pilgrimage. Jesus Christ