

took counsel with God on all matters, before choosing them; and, when she had received any orders from him, he alone could exempt her from their execution. No creature ever made her relax from her purpose. What was not done to shake her in her call to Canadas? Blows were given her, capable of prostrating a Giant. As soon as she had taken the first step, setting out from Tours to go to that distant Region whither God was calling her, the report of her journey and its object having spread [186] far and wide, those who were interested in the honor of her house represented to her parents in such vivid terms the wretchedness to which they were consigning their daughter,—telling them that Canadas was a country of ruined reputation, that vice held the upper hand there, that unfair means had been employed in their case, but that it was still easy to balk the plan,—that thereupon Monsieur de la Troche sent a very urgent letter to his daughter, and orders to stop her wherever she should be found. Our Canadian—seeing plainly that these givers of advice did not understand Geography, but took North America for South, making an error of only eight hundred leagues, and more—was not at all dismayed. She had recourse to prayer and to her pen, taking action with God and with Monsieur her father. The former was on her side, but she had more difficulty in winning the latter. She answered so clearly and discreetly, with such zeal, that all the violent measures that had been planned against her were checked. The matter, however, was placed in the hands of the Reverend Father Dom Raymond de saint Bernard, Provincial of the Reverend Feuillant Fathers,⁵ who made a journey on this account as