

burst into tears [8] at the sight, and all seemed to feel the same devotion that was in the sick girl's heart. *Ah, my Savior, she often exclaimed, when shall I see you? As it cannot be in this life, grant me a speedy death.*

Nothing afflicted her so much as being told that her last hour was not yet so near at hand; and it may be said that this holy impatience to be united with God was incomparably more trying to her than all the sufferings of her disease.

So confident did she feel of enjoying this happiness that she unhesitatingly promised those to whom she was under obligations that she would earnestly pray to the Savior and his holy Mother, in order to secure for them [9] the virtues that they most needed. Finally, the moment so ardently desired by her having arrived, she gently expired, commending her soul, until she breathed her last, to her heavenly Spouse. Her face, always extremely beautiful, appeared after her death fresher, livelier, more strikingly beautiful than usual; so that all glorified God therefor, as being a manifestation of his almighty power, whose will it was to bestow this visible sign of the blessed state to which he had called that admirable girl. The people, persuaded of her sanctity, decked that virgin form, and accompanied its interment with all the magnificence that can possibly be employed in this country, as if they were rather [10] celebrating her nuptials with her heavenly Spouse than performing a mournful ceremony.