

at Fort Royal. The convent was destroyed, every stone in it was torn down, even the bodies buried in it were dug up and taken away, the thing was just absolutely ruined. Sometime after that Preserved Smith tells how great numbers of French people looked ~~at~~^{to} this as a great center of true religious life and people were coming through the place to see it and ~~a~~ something which was thought to be a miracle occurred in it. It was in the next century that so many miracles were ~~wrote~~ at the tomb of a Jansenist deacon in Paris that the government closed the cemetery and allowed no-one to enter. And the next day after this order was given a sign was up over the door which some wit put over the gate of the cemetery. It said, "By order of the king, God is forbidden to perform any miracles at this place." But the Jansenist movement was completely wiped out - though the letters had stirred the French mind - Preserved Smith says, "~~at~~^{as} no religious controversy, not even the Reformation, has ever done." He says, "All the great writers of the classic age were brought into the battle on one side or the other." But the Jesuits had the ear of the king and before the Edict of Nantes was revoked, the Port Royal Abbey was destroyed and Jansenism was completely wiped out. When they were trying to get the letters condemned, and it looked as if they might be condemned in Rome, Pascal said, "If my letters are condemned in Rome, the thing that I condemn in them is condemned in Heaven. Lord Jesus I appeal to thy tribune. If the Jansenists resemble heretics by reforming morals, the Jesuits resemble them in doing evil." And it's an interesting thing how this movement which was utterly wiped out by the force of the Jesuits, their strength and their power and their relation to the king, nevertheless produced the greatest attack on the Jesuit order ~~w~~hich it has ever seen, in these letters, and they were such brilliant letters and so cleverly written in such beautiful French that they became a classic of French literature, read every since and