

paid for the property constituting a very pretty profit. But Mother Marie des Anges, remembering that Danton would not have been warned except for his intervention, proposed to do even better than that for her original rescuer. The Ursuline community was in an excellent condition, financially speaking, when Laurent Goussard made this proposition. It had received some exceedingly liberal gifts since its re-establishment, and, in addition, was enriched by all the funds which its superior had saved during the long existence of her lay boarding-school, and which she had generously turned into the treasure-chest of the convent. Laurent Goussard must have been dumfounded therefore when he heard her reply:

"Your proposition does not meet my approval. I cannot purchase at a reduced price; my conscience forbids me to do it. Before the Revolution the property of our abbey was appraised at so much; that is the price I propose to pay, and not the price to which it had fallen in sympathy with the depreciation in value undergone by all the so-called national property. In a word, my friend, I propose to pay more than you ask; tell me if that suits you."

Laurent Goussard thought at first that he had misunderstood or been misunderstood; but, when it was explained to him that he was indebted to Mother Marie des Anges's alleged conscientious scruples for a profit of about fifty thousand francs, he did not choose to do violence to such a delicate conscience, and, closing his fingers upon that profit, which really