

FILIAL LOVE.

The fact that we are about to relate took place in Lyon. A young soldier belonging to a regiment of cuirassiers, came one day, *about four o'clock in the afternoon*, to find the military chaplain and beg him to be so good as to hear his confession and give him Holy Communion.

It was all right for confession, but to find himself asked for Holy Communion at so late an hour, would attract the attention of a chaplain the most habituated to unforeseen cases. The priest demanded an explanation, which was readily given. It was as follows:

The young soldier had an excellent mother who loved him devotedly. Now, to-day was the feast of the good woman, and her son had long promised himself to celebrate it in a manner that he knew would be agreeable to her. But the soldier has little liberty in the employment of his time. An unlooked for inspection of his regiment, and then a review, obliged him to remain in the ranks the whole morning. But he did not lose hope. He said to himself that toward the end of the day, he would have a moment of respite and, cost what it might, he would go to Holy Communion, for the next day would not be his mother's feast. In spite of the fatigue of the morning and that which he foresaw in the evening, he remained fasting.

At four, he was free, and he went at once to the chaplain. Could the latter refuse to hear the confession and to give Holy Communion at any hour whatever to a soldier who had been on duty all day, and who loved his mother so well? No, surely not. He was deeply touched at such an act of sturdy piety toward God and of exquisite filial affection. He heard his confession immediately, and gave him Holy Communion.

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