

and national, she established, with the assistance of some of her former associates, a lay boarding-school, to which pupils flocked from all the surrounding country, as soon as a semblance of order had been restored in public affairs and in men's minds. Under the Empire Mother Marie des Anges was able to reconstitute her community, and the first act of her restored authority was a signal act of gratitude. She decreed that, every year, on the 5th of April, the anniversary of Danton's death, a service should be held for the repose of his soul in the convent chapel.

To those who remonstrated against this ceremony, she replied:

"Do you know many men for whom it is more necessary to implore the divine compassion?"

Under the Restoration the celebration of that service became a serious matter; but Mother Marie des Anges would never consent to abandon it, and the great veneration with which she is regarded compelled those who were most aroused over what they called a great scandal to submit to it. As you may imagine, her obstinate courage received its due reward under the government of July. To-day, Mother Marie des Anges enjoys the highest consideration at court, and there is nothing which she cannot obtain in the most exalted spheres; but it is fair to add that she asks for nothing, not even for alms for her poor, whom she finds means to assist generously by virtue of the excellent administrative methods she has introduced in the management of