

public eye from undue oppression. Before the abolition of the slave trade this was probably the noblest triumph obtained in the cause of suffering humanity.

An interesting episode in the life of Vincent at this time deserves notice. On one occasion he observed among the convicts a young man driven almost to madness by the reflection that his family, during his captivity, would be deprived of the means of subsistence. Vincent was so affected by the sight of this man's misery, that, being unable otherwise to relieve him, he managed to take his place, bore the chain and worked in the galley service unnoticed and unknown, till after the lapse of some months he was discovered. He bore through life the honorable marks of the chain. By the advice of M. de Berulle, afterward Cardinal, Vincent, in 1617, left the house of the Count de Joigny, and undertook a mission at Chatillon, now in the Department of Ain. While there, the town was visited by pestilence and famine. With the clergy of the locality he was incessantly employed in procuring subsistence for the living, and comfort for the dying. Emulating their example, the ladies of Chatillon built tents, carried the sick to them, and provided food and medicine; ladies of the highest rank shared this dangerous and laborious work. On one occasion while Vincent was going into his pulpit, a lady asked him to recommend to his people a poor family, five miles from Chatillon, sick and utterly destitute. He complied with zeal and eloquence. Numbers, carrying bread, wine and provisions, visited the poor family. Vincent also went, and seeing the abundance of the supplies, said, "This is a good deed, but not well regulated. This family has too much, and some part of the supply will prove useless. What is not consumed at once will be spoiled and wasted, and the poor people will then be as badly off as before." He had the spirit of order and arrangement, and accordingly devised a scheme by which not only that particular family, but every other in the neighborhood, similarly afflicted, might be effectually relieved. Instances of