

ensuite la laiterie, l'étable et le poulailler ont eu ma visite.

Maintenant que le gros ouvrage est terminé, grâce à l'aide de la fille de ferme, je vais me consacrer au raccommodage. Mon père et mes frères travaillent beaucoup, c'est te dire qu'ils usent énormément; il y a là un travail qui est toujours à recommencer, et auquel ma pauvre mère ne peut pas suffire.

Garde-toi cependant de t'apitoyer sur mon sort et de me croire accablée sous le poids de mon labeur quotidien! Comme il s'accomplit sous la direction de ma mère, sa présence me le rend facile et agréable, puis quand vient le soir, tout travail cesse, la famille s'assemble pour souper et le repas se prolonge au milieu des rires et des bonnes causeries.

Le dimanche, après les offices, je fais de bonnes promenades, soit avec mes frères, soit avec de bonnes amies que j'ai retrouvées ici.

Cette vie simple et laborieuse me plaît infiniment. Il est doux de se sentir utile! Aussi l'année prochaine, lorsque mes études seront achevées, je compte bien la reprendre pour ne la plus quitter.

Situ pouvais disposer de quelques jours, tu devrais bien me les consacrer; mes parents t'accueilleraient avec plaisir et tu verrais que je ne m'acquitte pas trop mal de mes devoirs de maîtresse de maison par intérim.

Je t'embrasse avec l'espérance de te voir.

Ton amie affectionnée,

JEANNE.

DICTÉE ANGLAISE

THE TRUCE OF GOD.

Another excellent institution that owed its existence to the middle ages, and for which humanity was also indebted to the happy influence of religion, was the sacred compact usually termed the *Truce of God*. From the ninth to the eleventh century,

the feudal system, however beautiful in many of its principles, had been a constant source of contentions and wars. Each petty chieftain arrogated to himself an almost unlimited use of force and violence to avenge his wrongs and pursue his rights, whether real or pretended. As, moreover, vassals were obliged to espouse the quarrels of their immediate lords, rapine, bloodshed, and their attendant miseries were to be seen everywhere; nor could the most pacific citizens depend on one moment of perfect security, either for their properties or their lives.

Religion, by her divine and universally revered authority, was alone capable of raising an efficacious barrier against this torrent of evils. Experience having already shown the impossibility of stemming it at once, prudent measures were taken gradually to diminish its violence.

COMPOSITION ANGLAISE

MAGNANIMITY OF A CHRISTIAN EMPEROR.

After the downfall of the Carlovingian family, the Empire was restored to its pristine vigor by the election of the noble Conrad, duke of the Franconians. This pious, chivalrous, wise, and valiant monarch had to contend with many difficulties, and fortune did not always smile upon his efforts. But he terminated his royal career with a deed, which alone exalts him far above other celebrated conquerors and rulers, and was attended with more important consequences to after-times, than have resulted from many brilliant reigns; and this single deed, which forms the brightest jewel in the crown of glory that adorns those ages, so clearly reveals the true nature of Christian principles of government, and the Christian idea of political power, that I may be permitted to notice it briefly.

When he felt his end approaching, and perceived that of the four principal German nations, the Saxons alone, by their