

proudly yet timidly, a young girl of sixteen, a veritable flower link between those two imposing forces.

On seeing those three personages, the master of the "Golden Crown" lost all his philosophy and all his joviality. However great one may be through fortune, influence, knowledge ; were one a member even of the municipal council and Captain of the Company of Firemen, one does not show the door to five devout persons at a blow, one of whom is a Colonel who wants a Friday dinner at three francs, fifty sous a head.

The master of the "Golden Crown" took off his own crown, a cap of very gay cotton, and announced abstinence fare. He kept his word, with a certain amount of luxury. He was an improvisator. But who will use colors and a brush to paint the staring eyes, gaping mouth, profound stupefaction and embarrassment of the fat Voltarian bourgeois, so arrogant a moment before ? He hardly dared to touch the meat stacked up on his plate. If the terrible guest had questioned him as to his religious principles, he would have declared he was eating meat by the doctor's order on account of poor health !

I have since learned, writes Louis Veuillot, that our Colonel was no less than a very brave and illustrious general. Herewith I render him thanks for the dinner he procured us. We had fish, vegetables, cream—a real feast. I am not ungrateful ; but in fact, General, I thank you still more for the good lesson you gave the guests and your temporary host. They needed it badly, and you would render them a service by repeating it. Ah ! General, what good you do wherever you pass, merely by showing yourself so simply and so truly a christian. The vanity of these petty bourgeois and the high opinion they have of themselves do not yet quite allow them to compare themselves to you. They still respect the man they see passing on a war horse, arms at his belt, crosses on his breast, gashes on his face, authority in his eye. This man represents devotedness, glory, control and power, above all. Were this man as christian as you, General, did he respect God publicly and fearlessly, there would be fewer freethinkers, scorners of the Church's precepts and "adorers of the God of good people."

SEMAINE DE VIVIERS.