

and his severities had been relaxed. He was out of spirits at his departure. His tears were flowing. The abbot cheered him up, laughed at his dejection, and told him there was nothing in his fate so particularly terrible. Becket said that he had dreamt the night before that he was to be martyred. 'Martyrdom!' laughed the abbot; 'what has a man who eats and drinks like you to do with martyrdom? The cup of wine which you drink has small affinity with the cup of martyrdom.' 'I confess,' said Becket, 'that I indulge in pleasures of the flesh. Yet the good God has deigned to reveal my fate to me.'<sup>1</sup>

Sad at heart, the archbishop removed to Sens; yet if the pope stood firm, all might yet be well.

## VII.

THE archbishop's letters show conclusively that the Constitutions were not the real causes of the dispute with the king. The king was willing to leave the

<sup>1</sup> "Ergo martyrio interibis? Quid esculento et temulento et martyri?" "Fateor," inquit, "corporeis voluptatibus indulgeo. Bonus tamen Dominus, qui justificat impium, indigno dignatus est revelare mysterium."—*Materials*, vol. i. p. 51.