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THE HISTORY
OF THE
FRENCH REVOLUTION



M. THIERS

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THE HISTORY
OF THE
FRENCH REVOLUTION
1789—1800

BY
LOUIS ADOLPHE THIERS

TRANSLATED, WITH NOTES AND ILLUSTRATIONS, FROM THE MOST
AUTHENTIC SOURCES, BY
FREDERICK SHOBERL



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IN FIVE VOLUMES
VOL. V.

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*A Woodcut designed by George Cruikshank for the Cover of the original
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The Revolution gave a new direction to his ambition. He became an officer in the National Guards, and afterwards served in the armies of the Rhine and of Italy. Bonaparte made him his aide-de-camp, intrusted him with his secret correspondence, and gave him in marriage Josephine's niece. On the establishment of the Consulate, Lavalette was made Count, and Commander of the Legion of Honour. In 1815, when Louis fled from the Tuileries, he assumed the direction of the post-office, and used his utmost efforts to accelerate the progress of Napoleon. In consequence, on the second Restoration, he was condemned to death as an accomplice of the Emperor. He contrived, however, to escape from prison in the disguise of his own wife, and was assisted in his endeavours to quit France by Messrs. Bruce and Hutchinson and Sir Robert Wilson. After some years of exile he was pardoned, and returned to his native country in 1821.—*Encyclopædia Americana*.

"Lavalette was no bad representation of Bacchus. A lady might have been proud of his pretty little white hand, and red, well-turned nails. His two little eyes and immoderately little nose, placed in the midst of a very fat pair of cheeks, gave to his countenance a truly comic expression, in aid of which came the extraordinary arrangement of his head. Not the locks only, but the individual hairs might be counted; and they received distinguishing names from the wits of the staff—as the invincible, the redoubtable, the courageous; and one in particular, which defied the discipline of the comb or the hand, and pertinaciously stood upright, was called the indomitable. But notwithstanding this personal appearance, and an address almost burlesque, Lavalette knew how to enforce respect. He had sense and wit; had seen much and retained much; and related anecdotes with remarkable grace, resulting from a cast of ideas at once quiet, brilliant, and acute. He was a good father, a good husband, and a faithful friend. He married, a few days before his departure for Egypt, Emile de Beauharnais, daughter of Madame Bonaparte's brother-in-law. This young lady was of extreme beauty, gentle, and well-educated. Her husband, however, had not reached Egypt before she took the small-pox, and lost her beauty. She was in despair; and though by degrees the traces of the malady subsided, she could not reconcile herself to the change of which she felt conscious her husband on his return must be sensible. The delicacy of his conduct, however, never gave her reason to suppose that his attachment was diminished; but her profound melancholy and weariness of life showed that she could not overcome her own apprehensions."—*Duchesse d'Abrantès*.

C.

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CHARLES MAURICE DE TALLEYRAND-PERIGORD.

"Talleyrand," said Napoleon, "is a corrupt man, who has betrayed all parties and persons. Wary and circumspect, always a traitor, but always in conspiracy with fortune, Talleyrand treats his enemies as if they were one day to become his friends, and his friends as if they were to become his enemies. He is a man of unquestionable talent,

APPENDICES.

A.

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NAPOLEON AND PEZARO.

The following is the account of this interview given by Napoleon himself, when at St. Helena, to Las Cases:—

"Have I kept my word?" said Napoleon. "The Venetian territory is covered with my troops; the Germans are flying before me; I shall be in Germany in a few days. What does your Republic desire? I have offered her the alliance of France; does she accept it?" "No," said Pezaro; "Venice rejoices in your triumphs; she knows well that she can only exist by means of France; but constant to her ancient wise policy, she wishes to remain neutral. Besides, what good could we do you? Under Louis XII. or Francis I. we were of some weight in the scale of battle; but now, with such immense armies, with whole populations under arms, what value can you set on our assistance?" "But do you still continue your armaments?" "We must do so," said Pezaro. "Brescia and Bergamo have raised the standard of rebellion. Our faithful subjects are threatened, at Crema, Chiari, and Verona; Venice itself is disturbed!" "Well," replied the French General, "are not these additional reasons for accepting the proposals I have made you? They would put an end to all these troubles. But your fate hurries you on; reflect, however; it is a more decisive moment for your Republic than you think. I leave a greater force in Italy than would suffice to subject you; I am quitting Italy to penetrate deep into Germany; if there should be troubles in my rear, through your fault—if my soldiers should be insulted through your exciting your troops against the Jacobins, that which would have been no crime while I remained in Italy will be an unpardonable one when I am in Germany; your Republic would cease to exist; you would have pronounced its condemnation. If I have reason to complain of you, whether I am victorious or defeated, I will make peace at your expense." Pezaro of course made many protestations and excuses, and then took his leave.

B.

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COMTE DE LAVALETTE.

"Marie Chamans, Comte de Lavalette, was born in the year 1769, of obscure parents. He was destined for the clerical profession, and wore the habit of an abbé for some time, but afterwards took to the law,

created Duc de Bassano, he succeeded Champagny as Minister for Foreign Affairs; on which occasion Talleyrand observed, 'In all France I know but one greater ass than Maret, and that is, the Duc de Bassano.' During the Hundred Days he was Minister of the Interior and Secretary of State, and distinguished himself by his moderation. He was present at Waterloo, where he was nearly taken prisoner, and on the return of the Bourbons was exiled to Gratz, in Styria, but at the end of five years was permitted to return to France. In 1826 he was residing on his estate in Burgundy, and wholly devoted to the education and establishment of his children."—*Court and Camp of Bonaparte*.

"He became Prime Minister and President of the Council in 1835, but held this exalted position for a short period only, and died in 1839."—*Biographie Universelle*.

E.

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M. DE LAVALETTE'S MISSION TO PARIS.

The following statement relative to Lavalette's mission, and to the political intrigues of the period, is extracted from the Memoirs of that personage:—

"I arrived in Paris in the month of May. The five members of government were at that time Barras, Rewbel, Carnot, Lareveillère-Lépaux, and Barthélemy. The first four had been members of the Convention; and although none of them had been famous during the Reign of Terror for any atrocious act, still the three first had voted the death of the King—a vote which, notwithstanding the fatal though powerful consideration that may be presented in alleviation, placed them amongst the most furious Jacobins, and was prejudicial to the respect with which they ought to have been invested. The people bore impatiently the yoke of men who recalled to their minds such fatal events; and they were especially disliked by the Constitutionlists of 1791, who reproached them at once with the destruction of their edifice, and the persecutions which had so long weighed upon them. When I arrived, the contest was violent, and the antagonists of government made no secret of their wish to overthrow the majority. My first visit was to Barras, who seemed to have preserved favourable sentiments for General Bonaparte, and who expressed to me a wish to maintain the friendship which had so long united them. After him I saw Carnot, who spoke to me with a reserve commanded by the intimate connection of General Bonaparte with Barras. A difference of systems and views on some points of government had created between these two Directors an animosity which betrayed itself in invectives and threats that left no opening for reconciliation. Carnot, however, expressed himself with candour. 'It is impossible,' he said, 'to go on any longer on the revolutionary road. If a lasting system of moderation be not adopted, all is lost. France feels horror for whatever brings to mind the deplorable measures to which the necessity of saving her has carried the country. The public mind is irritated, and unless great care be taken, the effect will be to involve us again in a confusion, out of which we shall be extricated only to bend under the yoke of the Bourbons. The faction against which I am struggling does not blush to charge me with being

but venal in everything. Nothing could be done with him but by means of bribery."—*A Voice from St. Helena.*

We subjoin M. Bourrienne's character of Talleyrand, which, it will be observed, is wholly at variance with that drawn by Napoleon: "History will speak as favourably of Talleyrand as his contemporaries have spoken ill of him. When a statesman throughout a great, long, and difficult career makes and preserves a number of faithful friends, and provokes but few enemies, it may justly be inferred that his character is honourable, his talent profound, and that his political conduct has been wise and moderate. It is impossible to know Talleyrand without admiring him. All who have that advantage judge him, no doubt, as I do."

This celebrated statesman died in Paris, at an advanced age, in May 1838, leaving behind him some MS. Memoirs—containing, it is supposed, the history of his own times—which, as ordered in his will, were not to be opened till thirty years after his death; but an agreement was afterwards made between Napoleon III. and Talleyrand's heirs, postponing their publication for another thirty years.

D.

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DUC DE BASSANO.

"Hugues Bernard Maret was born of a respectable family in 1763. Early in life he applied himself to the study of the law, but when the Revolution broke out, turned his attention to diplomacy. He constantly attended the sittings of the States-general, and compressed on paper the substance of every remarkable harangue. By the advice of friends he published these reports daily, and their success was so great that he was engaged to contribute them to the *Moniteur*, which in consequence increased tenfold in a single month. The diplomatic career of Maret commenced at Hamburg as Secretary of Legation. He was afterwards transferred to Brussels with increased powers; but his most important duty was a mission to London, the object of which was to negotiate a peace. The negotiation, however, was indignantly broken off by our Ministry on learning the death of Louis XVI. On his return to Paris, Maret was nominated Minister Plenipotentiary to Naples; but on his way thither he was arrested by the Austrians and thrown into prison at Mantua, whence he was transferred to a healthier fortress in the Tyrol. Here he devoted his days to literary pursuits; formed a composition which served for ink; and with the stump of an old pen which he found in a corner of his room, wrote two or three comedies as well as one tragedy on some slips of paper which he begged or stole from his gaoler. But this was not all; for with a piece of coal he actually covered the four walls of his dungeon with scientific disquisitions. After twenty-two months' confinement, Maret and some others were exchanged for the Duchesse d'Angoulême; and he was appointed by the Directory to assist in the negotiations with Lord Malmesbury at Lille. For some time afterwards he remained without employment; but on the return of Bonaparte he assisted him in overthrowing the Directory. From this period the history of Maret becomes that of his master, to whom he proved a most useful acquisition. In 1811, having been previously

were surrounded, when a signal-gun was discharged, which made every heart that heard it beat with agitation. Instantly the troops approached the gates, and commanded them to be thrown open. Murmurs arose among the guards of the Councils; the railings were closed, and every preparation made for resistance. But no sooner did the Staff of Augereau appear at the gates than the soldiers of the adverse party seized their Commander and delivered him over to the assailants. By six o'clock in the morning all was concluded. Several hundreds of the most powerful of the party of the Councils were in prison; and the people, waking up from their sleep, found the streets filled with troops, the walls covered with proclamations, and military despotism established!"—*Alison*.

"I spent the night of the 17th in beholding the preparations for the awful scene which was to take place in a few hours. None but soldiers appeared in the streets. The cannon brought to surround the palace where the Legislative Body assembled were rolling along the pavements; but except their noise, all was silence. No hostile assemblage was seen anywhere; nor was it known against whom all this apparatus was directed. Liberty was the only power vanquished in that fatal struggle. It might have been said that she was seen to fly, like a wandering spirit, at the approach of the day which was to shine upon her destruction."—*Madame de Staël*.

"At length came that terrible day, the 17th of Fructidor—I call it terrible, because the establishment of a Republic in France, such as the fond dreams of our hearts represent it, may be impracticable; still we had one even in the Directory. After the institution of this dictatorship—or of this royalty in five volumes—tatters of the Republic had daily fallen under the blows of the Directory itself and the anarchists: at any rate, however, some part of it was left. But this awful day utterly destroyed it. The Republic, whose foundations had been cemented by the pure and glorious blood of the martyrs of the Gironde, had vanished—was dispelled like a dream. The peal that gave the signal for this revolution came from Italy. It was the hand of Bonaparte that rang it."—*Duchesse d'Abrantès*.

G.

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JOSEPH BONAPARTE.

"Joseph Bonaparte, the eldest brother of Napoleon, was born at Ajaccio in 1768. He was designed for the law; but the invasion of Corsica by the English in 1793 compelled him, with the rest of his family, to seek refuge in France. When his brother seized the Imperial sceptre, Joseph was laden with honours both civil and military, raised to the throne of Naples, and afterwards, in 1808, to that of Spain. He was, however, compelled to fly from the kingdom, in consequence of the decisive overthrow he met with at Vittoria. In 1814, after his brother's abdication, he retired to Switzerland, where he bought a valuable estate. In the following year he returned to Paris, but after the battle of Waterloo, escaped to the United States, and established himself in the vicinity of Philadelphia, under the name of Comte Survilliers."—*Court and Camp of Bonaparte*.

a Royalist; and nevertheless nobody is more convinced than I am of Pichegru's treason, and the necessity of punishing him; but they want to govern France as they would a club. Narrow views, a passionate, factious spirit, the prejudices of ignorance and fear, ever suspicious and blind, preside over all our acts: they prefer the violence that irritates, while moderation and firmness would be sufficient to smooth everything. My situation is painful; for I am forced to move with a party in which, exclusive of Pichegru, there are men to whom I am obnoxious, who perhaps conspire with him, and who will ruin the Republic, without obtaining the secret aim of their endeavours. I have tried,' he added, 'to reclaim Pichegru; I was not personally acquainted with him; but the conversation I had with him convinced me that he is cleverer than I thought, and that he has taken his final resolutions. I do not know what are his means of execution, now that he is no longer with the army; but whatever they may be, they will miscarry when opposed by the firm vigilance of government, and by public opinion, which is strongly declared against the Bourbons.' This conversation, of which I have only recorded the most remarkable parts, was the only one I had with Carnot. The house of Barras was open to me, and I went there so often that Carnot could not but look upon me as a man entirely devoted to the party of that Director: it was, however, not so. All his speeches breathed hatred and vengeance. A month before the catastrophe took place it was secretly resolved to make it terrible, and the victims were marked out. My position and my duty forbade me taking any part in the contest; but I wrote the truth to General Bonaparte. I observed that he would tarnish his glory if he gave any support to acts of violence, which the situation of government did not justify; that nobody would pardon him if he joined the Directory in their plan to overthrow the Constitution and liberty; that proscriptions were about to take place against the national representation, and against citizens whose virtues made them worthy of respect; that punishments would be inflicted without trial; and that the hatred resulting from such measures would extend not only to the Directory, but to the whole system of Republican government. Besides, it was not certain that the party they were going to proscribe really wished the return of the Bourbons; and in any case the legal punishment and banishment of Pichegru would be sufficient to destroy any plans of that sort. These considerations made so much impression on the mind of General Bonaparte that he soon avoided, in his correspondence with the Directory, all allusion to the interior situation of France, and at last left off writing to them altogether."

F.

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THE 17TH FRUCTIDOR (SEPTEMBER 3, 1797).

"On the night of the 17th of Fructidor the Directory moved all the troops in the neighbourhood into the capital, and the inhabitants at midnight beheld with breathless anxiety twelve thousand armed men defile in silence over the bridges with forty pieces of cannon, and occupy all the avenues to the Tuileries. Not a sound was to be heard but the marching of the men and the rolling of the artillery, till the Tuileries

and consequently relieved the sickness from which he was scarcely ever free. His remarkable saying to the pupils of a school which he one day visited, 'Young people, every hour of time lost is a chance of misfortune for future life,' may be considered in some measure as forming the rule of his own conduct. Perhaps no man ever better understood the value of time. If the activity of his mind found not wherewithal to exercise itself in reality, he supplied the defect by giving free scope to imagination, or in listening to the conversation of the learned men attached to the expedition. He delighted in discoursing with Monge and Berthollet, when the discussion mostly ran upon chemistry, mathematics, and religion, as also with Caffarelli, whose conversation, rich in facts, was at the same time lively and intellectual. At other times he conversed with the Admiral, when the subject always related to naval manœuvres, of which he showed great desire to obtain knowledge; and nothing more astonished Brueys than the sagacity of his questions. I was almost always with him in his cabin, where I read to him some of his favourite works which he had selected for his camp library. He seldom rose before ten o'clock in the morning. The *Orient* had the appearance of a populous town from which women had been excluded; and this floating city was inhabited by two thousand individuals, amongst whom were a great number of distinguished men, several of whom Napoleon invited every day to dine with him. When the weather was fine he went up to the quarter-deck, which, from its extent, formed a grand promenade. I recollect that when walking the quarter-deck with him while we were in the sea of Sicily I thought I could see the summits of the Alps lighted by the setting sun. Bonaparte laughed much, and joked me about it. He called Brueys, who took his telescope, and soon confirmed my conjecture. The Alps! At the mention of that word by the Admiral, I think I can see Bonaparte still. He stood for a long time motionless, and then bursting from his trance, exclaimed, 'No! I cannot behold the land of Italy without emotion. Those mountains command the plains where I have so often led the French to victory. With them we will conquer again.' One of Napoleon's greatest pleasures during the voyage was, after dinner, to fix upon three or four persons to support a proposition, and as many to oppose it. He always gave out the subjects to be discussed, which most frequently turned upon questions of religion, the different kinds of argument, and the art of war. No country came under Bonaparte's observation without recalling historical recollections to his mind. On passing the island of Candia his imagination was excited, and he spoke with enthusiasm of ancient Crete and the Colossus, whose fabulous renown has surpassed all human glories. The ingenious fables of mythology likewise occurred to his mind, and imparted to his language something of a poetical, and I may say of an inspired character. The sight of the kingdom of Minos led him to reason on the laws best calculated for the government of nations, and the birthplace of Jupiter suggested to him the necessity of a religion for the mass of mankind. The musicians on board the *Orient* sometimes played matinales, but only between decks, for Napoleon was not yet sufficiently fond of music to have it in his cabin. It is scarcely possible that some accidents should not occur during a long voyage. On these occasions nothing was more remarkable than the humanity of the man who has since been so prodigal of the blood of his fellow-creatures on the field of battle. When any individual fell into the sea the General-in-Chief was in a state of agitation till he was saved. He ordered me to reward those who ventured their lives in this service."—*Bourrienne*.

After the overthrow of Charles X., Joseph returned to Europe, and in 1832 came to England. In 1834, in company with Lucien, he protested against the law of exile against the Bonaparte family. He was in America from 1837 to 1839, when he returned to England. In 1841 he went to Genoa, and thence to Florence, where he died in 1844.

"You would seldom see a better countenance than that of Joseph Bonaparte. With masculine strength and expression, it combines a mild, intelligent smile. Joseph is well read, not only in our literature, but in that of Italy and England. He loves poetry and the belles-lettres, and takes pleasure in surrounding himself with learned and scientific men. It has been said that his character is weak and false. He has goodness of heart, gentleness, clemency, and accuracy of judgment. His conduct during his unfortunate reign in Spain was on the whole admirable. He left France with great regret, and entreated his brother not to force a crown on him."—*Duchesse d'Abrantès*.

H.

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LUCIEN BONAPARTE.

"Lucien Bonaparte in the year 1797 was about twenty-two years of age: he was tall, ill-shaped, having limbs like those of the field spider, and a small head, which, with his tall stature, would have made him unlike his brothers, had not his physiognomy attested their common parentage. He was very near-sighted, which made him half shut his eyes and stoop his head. This defect would therefore have given him an unpleasing air if his smile, always in harmony with his features, had not imparted something agreeable to his countenance. Thus, though he was rather plain, he pleased generally. He had very remarkable success with women who were themselves very remarkable, and that long before his brother arrived at power. With respect to understanding and talent, Lucien always displayed abundance of both. In early youth, when he met with a subject he liked, he identified himself with it. He lived at that time in an ideal world. Thus at eighteen the perusal of Plutarch carried him into the Forum and Pyreus. He was a Greek with Demosthenes, a Roman with Cicero: he espoused all the ancient glories; but he was intoxicated with those of our own time. Those who, because they had no conception of this enthusiasm, alleged that he was jealous of his brother, have asserted a wilful falsehood, if they have not fallen into a most egregious error."—*Duchesse d'Abrantès*.

I.

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EXPEDITION TO EGYPT.

"During the whole voyage Napoleon passed the greatest part of his time below in the cabin, reclining upon a couch, which, by a ball and socket joint at each foot, rendered the ship's pitching less perceptible,

down very coolly; but he found himself so ill at ease in his turban and Oriental robe, that he speedily threw them off, and was never after tempted to resume the disguise."—*Bourrienne*.

M.

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NAPOLEON TO MADAME BRUEYS.

Napoleon, a short time after the battle, addressed the following interesting letter to Madame Brueys on her husband's death:—

"Your husband has been killed by a cannon-ball while combating on his quarter-deck. He died without suffering—the death the most easy and envied by the brave. I feel warmly for your grief. The moment which separates us from the object we love is terrible; we feel isolated on earth; we almost experience the convulsions of the last agony; the faculties of the soul are annihilated; its connection with the earth is preserved only across a veil which distorts everything. We feel in such a situation that there is nothing which still binds us to life; that it were far better to die; but when, after such first and unavoidable throes, we press our children to our hearts, tears and more tender sentiments arise, and life becomes bearable for their sakes. Yes, Madame, they will open the fountains of your heart; you will watch their childhood, educate their youth; you will speak to them of their father, of your present grief, and of the loss which they and the Republic have sustained in his death. After having resumed your interest in life by the chord of maternal love, you will perhaps feel some consolation from the friendship and warm interest which I shall ever take in the widow of my friend."—*Napoleon's Confidential Correspondence*.

N.

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FRENCH EXPEDITION TO IRELAND.

The landing of the French troops was announced by two proclamations, one from General Humbert, the other from Napper Tandy to his countrymen. The first bore: "United Irish! The soldiers of the great nation have landed on your shores, to aid you in breaking your fetters and recovering your liberties. Napper Tandy is at their head. He has sworn to break your fetters, or perish in the attempt. To arms, freemen, to arms! The trumpet calls you. Do not let your brethren perish unrevenged; if it be their destiny to fall, may their blood cement the glorious fabric of freedom!" Napper Tandy's proclamation was still more energetic. "What do I hear? The British Government talks of concessions; will you accept them? They hold out in one hand the olive branch; look well to the other—you will see in it the hidden dagger. No; Irishmen! you will not be the dupe of base intrigues. Barbarous crimes have

K.

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THE MAMELUKES.

"The Mamelukes are an invincible race, inhabiting a burning desert, mounted on the fleetest horses in the world, and full of courage. They live with their wives and children in flying camps, which are never pitched two nights together in the same place. They are horrible savages, and yet they have some notion of gold and silver; a small quantity of it serves to excite their admiration."—*Louis Bonaparte.*

"The Mamelukes are admirable horsemen, and the bits in their horses' mouths are so powerful that the most fiery steeds are speedily checked, even at full career, by an ordinary hand. Their stirrups are extremely short, and give the rider great power both in commanding his horse and striking with his sabre; and the pommel and back part of the saddle are so high that the horseman, though wounded, can scarcely lose his balance; he can even sleep without falling, as he would do in an arm-chair. The horse is burdened by no baggage or provisions, all of which are carried by the rider's servants; while the Mameluke himself, covered with shawls and turbans, is protected from the strokes of a sabre. They are all splendidly armed: in their girdle are always to be seen a pair of pistols and a poniard; from the saddle are suspended another pair of pistols and a hatchet; on one side is a sabre, on the other a blunderbuss, and the servant on foot carries a carbine. They seldom parry with the sword, as their fine blades would break in the collision, but avoid the strokes of their adversary by skill in wheeling their horse, while they trust to his impetus to sever his head from his body, without either cut or thrust."—*Miot.*

L.

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NAPOLEON AND MAHOMETANISM.

"I never," said Napoleon, "followed any of the tenets of the Mahometan religion. I never prayed in the mosques. I never abstained from wine, nor was circumcised, neither did I ever profess it. I said merely that we were the friends of the Mussulmans, and that I respected their Prophet, which was true; I respect him now. I told them we were all friends of Mahomet, which they really believed, as the French soldiers never went to church, and had no priests with them, for you must know that during the Revolution there was no religion whatever in the army. Menou really turned Mahometan, which was the reason I left him behind."—*A Voice from St. Helena.*

"On one occasion Bonaparte had a Turkish dress made, which he once put on, merely in joke. One day he desired me to go to breakfast without waiting for him, and that he would follow me. In about a quarter of an hour he made his appearance in his new costume. As soon as he was recognized he was received with a loud burst of laughter. He sat

P.

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FIELD-MARSHAL SUWARROW.

“Alexander Suwarrow Rimmiski, a Russian Field-Marshal, was born in 1730, of an ancient family. In 1742 he entered the army as a common soldier, and attained the rank of Colonel in 1762, after having distinguished himself in the famous Seven Years' War. He displayed equal talents in fighting the confederates of Poland from 1769 to 1772, which brought on the first dismemberment of that State. In 1774 he joined the army which Romanzow commanded against the Turks, and performed prodigies of valour. In 1783 he subdued the Kuban and Budziack Tartars, and was made Commander-in-Chief. In 1788 he caused the Turks to be attacked by the Russian fleet under the command of Paul Jones and the Prince of Nassau-Siegen, who defeated them twice. In the following year he was employed at the head of a detached body of Potemkin's army, besieged Ismael, took it, and put twenty thousand Turks to the sword, which procured him the name of the Butcher. In 1792 he was appointed to act in Poland; marched to Warsaw, and forced the suburbs of Prague after a bloody assault, which decided the fate of that kingdom. For his conduct on this occasion Catherine created him Field-Marshal. In 1799 he was sent into Italy against the French, and defeated Moreau at the passage of the Adda. A misunderstanding taking place soon afterwards between the Courts of St. Petersburg and Vienna, Suwarrow received orders to separate from the Austrians and march into Switzerland, where Masséna had just routed at Zurich the army that he was going to join. After many severe and doubtful conflicts, he arrived in Germany with the shattered remains of his army, which was his last exploit, the Russian troops having been recalled by their sovereign. On his arrival at St. Petersburg he was rather coldly received by Paul, and died at his estate of Polendorff, in Esthonia, at the age of seventy-one. Born with great talent and vivacity, Suwarrow possessed considerable information, and spoke several languages with facility. He was master of great skill and finesse, and knew how to make them instruments of success. Catherine liked whatever was extraordinary; he therefore took care to announce his victories to her in a laconic style, that delighted her. Having taken the town of Toutoukai, in Bulgaria, he wrote, ‘Glory to God! Praise to Catherine! The town is taken, and I am in it.’ He announced the capture of Ismael in these terms: ‘Madame, the proud Ismael is at your feet!’ He frequently put his orders into verse, and sent his reports so to the Empress. He never went into battle without kissing a little image of the Virgin or St. Nicholas, which he always carried about him. He used to tell his soldiers that all those who should be killed fighting would go to Paradise; and in the evening, after beat of drum, obliged his officers to recite a prayer before the soldiers. He was strict in service, and banished luxury from his camp. The soldiers adored him; but not so the officers, many of whom were his secret enemies—made so by his severe habits of discipline. He often changed his shirt in the middle of the camp, and wore sheepskin only. His frugal way of life enabled him to support all the fatigues of war. When he laid aside his sheepskin to put on the Marshal's uniform, he took care

been committed in your country; your friends have fallen victims to their devotion to your cause; their shades surround you; they cry aloud for vengeance. It is your duty to avenge their death. It is your duty to strike the assassins of your friends on their bloody thrones. Irishmen, declare a war of extermination against your oppressors—the eternal war of liberty against tyranny.”

“Never did England run greater danger than in the year 1798, when one expedition, directed against the East, threatened her Indian Empire, and another, against the West, under the command of General Humbert, was destined to carry into Ireland the principles of the French Revolution, and sever that important island from the British Empire.”—*Prince Hardenberg's Memoirs*.

O.

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MARSHAL BRUNE.

“George M. A. Brune, like all natives of the South, was ardent, active, fond of literature, poetry, and the fine arts: he possessed much information, and betook himself to composition. To facilitate the publication of his works, he became a printer; and at this period the Revolution opened. Brune was young; his head and heart confessed but one idea—glory and his country. He soon cast away pen, ink, and paper, and took to the sword. None of our Marshals have been so falsely represented in public opinion as Brune. He was not in Paris in the autumn of 1792, but at Radmack; so of course could have had no share in the September massacres. He advanced rapidly to an elevated rank in the army, distinguished himself in the campaign of Italy, was afterwards named General-in-Chief of the army in Helvetia, and from thence was removed to the Texel to oppose the landing of the Anglo-Russian army under the command of the Duke of York, who was entirely beaten at Bergen. On the establishment of the Consulate, Brune was appointed to the army of Italy, when, with the assistance of Suchet and Davoust, he nearly destroyed the Austrian army. In 1804 he was one of the sixteen Marshals whom Bonaparte appointed when he ascended the Imperial throne. He was afterwards for many years in disgrace; but on Napoleon's return in 1815 he accepted the command of the eighth military division. On the restoration of Louis, Brune went to Toulon to restore the white flag there; after which he was summoned to Paris. On his way thither, at Avignon, he was warned that much agitation prevailed in the town, particularly directed against him, and was advised not to pass through it; but turning a deaf ear to all remonstrance, he commanded his postillions to drive to the post-house. Here an armed mob, calling themselves Royalists, besieged him in a room to which they had driven him for refuge. The mayor and a few gendarmes succeeded in protecting him for some time, while three thousand citizens looked on with apathy. All resistance, however, was at length overpowered, and under the pretext that Brune had been the murderer of the Princesse Lamballe, he was put to death by the mob. His lacerated corpse, after being dragged through the mud, was thrown into the Rhône, and the river refusing to retain it, it lay two days unburied on the strand.”—*Duchesse d'Angoulême*.

Moore, to whose memory he erected a statue near the spot where he had fallen. He next invaded Portugal, where he met with no better success. After remaining two years in the Peninsula, defeated in every action he fought with Wellington, Soult was called to Germany, and was present at the battle of Bautzen. While at Dresden, news arrived of the defeat of the French at Vittoria, on which he was again hurried off to Spain to check the advance of Wellington. But he was as unsuccessful as on the former occasion, and received his final defeat under the walls of Toulouse. On the restoration of the Bourbons he received the portfolio of the Ministry at War; but on the escape of Napoleon from Elba he sided with him, and fought at Waterloo. In 1816 he was banished from France; but in three years he received permission to return, and in 1821 his Marshal's staff was restored to him."—*Court and Camp of Bonaparte*.

Soult, by a show of superior piety, had the art to ingratiate himself with Charles X. and his priestly advisers. On the downfall of that dynasty in 1830, Louis-Philippe appointed him to a place in the Ministry, which he held for some time, and then resigned. The Marshal was a shrewd, worldly man, a skilful soldier, and a consummate courtier, and in July 1838 officiated as Ambassador-Extraordinary of France to England in honour of the coronation of Queen Victoria. He died at the Castle of Soult-Berg in 1851.

R.

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NAPOLEON CROSSING THE DESERT.

"We arrived about four o'clock in the afternoon at Messoodiah. Here we witnessed a kind of phenomenon which was not a little agreeable to us. Messoodiah is situated on the coast of the Mediterranean, surrounded with little downs of very fine sand, which the copious rains of winter readily penetrate. The rain remains in the sand, so that on making, with the finger, holes of four or five inches in depth, at the bottom of these little hills, the water immediately flows out. This water was indeed rather thick, but its flavour was agreeable; and it would have become clear if we could have spared time to allow it to rest. It was a curious spectacle to behold us all lying on the sand, digging wells in miniature, and displaying a laughable selfishness in our endeavours to obtain the most abundant source. We found these sand-wells at the extremity of the desert, and they contributed in no small degree to revive the courage of our soldiers. The fatigues subsequently experienced in the desert excited violent murmurs among the soldiers during their passage across the isthmus. When any one passed them on horseback they studiously expressed their discontent. The advantage possessed by the horseman provoked their sarcasms."—*Bourrienne*.

"Just previous to his crossing the desert, Napoleon paid a visit to the Red Sea, when the following adventure occurred, as related by one of his Generals: 'The night overtook us, the waters of the Red Sea began to rise around us, when the horsemen ahead cried out that their horses were swimming. Bonaparte rescued the whole party by one of those simple expedients which occur to an imperturbable mind. Placing him-

to load himself immediately with all his honours and decorations, so as to be remarkable for the other extreme. He was bold, active, and had the art of attaching the soldiers to his destiny; but he has been reproached with shallow combinations and extreme cruelty."—*Biographie Moderne*.

"Suwarrow is a most extraordinary man. He dines every morning about nine. He sleeps almost naked; affects a perfect indifference to heat and cold; and quits his chamber, which approaches to suffocation, in order to review his troops, in a thin linen jacket, while the thermometer is at ten degrees below freezing. A great deal of his whimsical manner is affected. He finds that it suits his troops and the people he has to deal with. I dined with him this morning. He cried out to me across the table, 'Tweddell, the French have taken Portsmouth. I have just received a courier from England. The King is in the Tower, and Sheridan is Protector!'"—*Tweddell's Remains*.

Q.

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MARSHAL SOULT.

"Jean-de-Dieu Soult was born in the year 1769, and entered the army in his sixteenth year. Under Hoche, and then under Jourdan, he distinguished himself by his skill and bravery; and at the battle of Fleurus in particular he exhibited talents of the highest order. In 1794 he was made General of Brigade, and four years afterwards, of Division. The First Consul knew Soult by report, and one day inquired of Masséna whether he deserved his reputation. 'Both for judgment and courage,' replied the veteran, 'I can recommend him as one who, in my opinion, has scarcely a superior.' In consequence of this praise Soult was intrusted with the command of the chasseurs of the Consular Guard. When the invasion of England was resolved on, he was placed over the army encamped from Boulogne to Calais, where he established the severest discipline. In 1804 he was presented with the Marshal's truncheon. When his Generals surrounded Napoleon to receive his final instructions at Austerlitz, all that he said to Soult was, 'To you, Marshal, I have only to observe—act as you always do.' In the heat of this celebrated battle an aide-de-camp arrived with an order that he should instantly take the heights of Pratzen. 'I will obey the Emperor's commands as soon as I can,' replied the Marshal; 'but this is not the proper time.' This kindled the Emperor's rage, who despatched another aide-de-camp with a more peremptory mandate. He arrived just as Soult was putting his column in motion. The manœuvre had been delayed only because the Russians were extending their line to the left, and so weakening their centre, which was in possession of the heights. Complete success attended the Marshal's attack. Napoleon from his eminence perceived at once the reason of the delay and the brilliancy of the movement. He rode up to Soult, and in presence of the whole Staff, told him that he accounted him the ablest tactician in the Empire. For his behaviour at Eylau he was created Duc de Dalmatia, and soon afterwards sent to Spain, where he was defeated at Corunna by Sir John

self in the centre, he bade all the rest to form a circle round him, and then ride out each man in a separate direction, and each to halt as soon as he found his horse was swimming. The man whose horse continued to march the last was sure, he said, to be in the right direction; him accordingly we all followed, and reached Suez at midnight in safety; though so rapidly had the tide advanced that the horses were more than breast-high in the water.'—*Savary*.

S.

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MARSHAL MARMONT.

“Auguste Frédérique Louis Viesse de Marmont is one of the most respectable by birth of Napoleon’s Marshals. His family is noble, and he himself was born in 1774. From his earliest infancy he was designed for the army, and at Toulon attracted the notice of Bonaparte, who, when appointed General of the Army of the Interior, appointed him his Aide-de-Camp. Throughout the campaigns of Italy, Egypt, and Syria, Marmont was at the side of Napoleon, and was one of the few selected to return with him to France. In the passage of Mont St. Bernard he greatly distinguished himself, and commanded the artillery at Marengo. In the wars of 1805–1807 he served with equal honour, and in the course of the German campaign of 1809 obtained the Marshal’s truncheon and the title of Duc de Ragusa. He was afterwards ordered to replace Masséna in the command of the army of Portugal; but this was a situation above his abilities. Soon after his arrival in Spain, Marmont effected a junction with the army of Soult, and pursued Wellington towards Salamanca. For a time they watched each other; but a blunder of Marmont threw the initiative into the hands of Wellington. He was at dinner, in his tent, when information was brought him that the French were extending their wing, probably to outflank him. ‘Marmont’s good genius has forsaken him,’ said Wellington, and mounting his horse, attacked and defeated the French at the great battle of Salamanca, where Marmont lost his arm. He afterwards fought at Lutzen, Bautzen, and Leipsic, and on the entrance of the Allies into France was intrusted with the defence of Paris, which, however, he was compelled to surrender to the enemy. He afterwards entered into a treaty with the Allies, and marched his troops within their cantonments, stipulating, however, for the freedom of Napoleon’s person. Louis made Marmont a peer; and when Napoleon returned from Elba he denounced him as a traitor for the part he had played in the abdication. In 1817 he quelled an insurrection at Lyons. Marmont’s military talents are not of a high order, but his character is unstained either with rapine or cruelty.”—*Court and Camp of Bonaparte*.

In 1830 Marmont took part with Charles X. against the people, when he was defeated and became an exile, withdrawing to Venice, where he died in 1852.



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SUMMONING TO EXECUTION.

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On the next page a facsimile is given of the woodcut designed by George Cruikshank in 1837, for the cover of the monthly instalments in which the English issue first made its appearance in 1837-1838. The block was engraved by J. Thompson.

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