

Their force was about 1500 men; among whom there were very few officers or subalterns, although some had been forced to join them, and some remained with them, in the hope of preventing greater excesses. In the course of the day, several officers and soldiers left them; and it is believed they would have been deserted by many more, were it not for the threats of those, who, conceiving themselves too much compromised already, desired to increase the number of their accomplices.

During the whole of the 2d, Madrid was in a state of strong agitation. Rumours were circulated, that the mutinous guards were on the point of receiving considerable accessions of troops; and the most frightful insinuations were industriously circulated, that the king was secretly plotting an extension of the disaffection, and that he meditated an escape from the capital. The latter rumour created an alarming sensation, and called forth, from the political chief of Madrid, a proclamation, in which the report was adverted to, and contradicted in the most unequivocal terms. "The report that his majesty is going to leave the capital," says the chief, "is entirely the offspring of malevolence;

the other; the former is designed for carriages, the latter for walking. In some spots, new plantations form other alleys and promenades, intersecting, at certain intervals, the avenues already described, or separated from them by a broad esplanade; these newer scenes are also provided with the accommodations of chairs and benches, and embellished with marble fountains, and the usual appendages of statues and sculptural ornaments, which have, in general, an air of magnificence. Buen-Retiro and the botanic garden are agreeable objects; but, charming as this promenade appears, something yet remains to be supplied by the imagination. In the view to the left, the eye of taste yet requires some improvements: the erection of handsome houses, the interposition of beautiful parterres, enlivened by coffee-rooms, animated groups, and amusing spectacles. At present, though the concourse of people is often immense, the scene is uniformly dull and monotonous. The ladies constantly roll through the grand avenue, without alighting from their carriages: the exercise of walking is confined to women of the lower ranks, whose only garb is black, and who always envelope the head in a mantle, a sort of large veil, white or black, which conceals the face, and flows over the shoulders: from this scrupulous regard to national costume, there is no variety, no gaiety, no animation, none of the attractions which create so many sources of pleasure in the public resorts of other countries."

and I am authorized to state, that the king, although he had resolved to proceed to the royal palace at St. Ildefonso, before the late events, has agreed, in consequence of them, to suspend his journey, being firmly resolved to remain at Madrid till public tranquillity is completely restored." Another rumour, for which there appeared some foundation, and which tended to throw additional suspicions on the motives of his majesty, was, that he had insisted that orders should be despatched to General Espinosa, not to advance to Madrid, it being known that he was marching on the capital at the head of 2500 troops, for the purpose of defeating the objects of the mutinous guards.

From the 2d to the 4th, no effectual steps were adopted by the government to put an end to the present unnatural state of things. Some attempts, indeed, were made to induce the rebels to lay down their arms, but of such a feeble and inoperative kind, as to be treated by the mutineers rather as symptoms of fear than as the requirements of authority.*

The ministers of Ferdinand at length perceived, that, before they could advance with an imposing influence in destroying the confederacy, it was absolutely necessary that the king should be brought, in some explicit manner, to make known the expression of his own personal wishes for the suppression of the rebellion. With this view, the

* It is very certain, that, from the beginning, the leaders of the mutiny calculated upon the personal protection of his majesty, as is apparent from the following representation sent to the king from the camp of the Prado, on the 2d of July: "SIRE,—The chiefs, officers, subalterns, and others, composing the first and the third battalions of the 1st regiment of infantry of the royal guard, and the second and third battalions of the 2d regiment of the same guard, most humbly represent to your majesty, that the multiplied outrages which they have suffered with the greatest patience from the authorities, have, at length, so exasperated the soldiers, that they are convinced there is a design to disarm them: it has not been possible to restrain their offended courage. In this position, the undersigned, in order to keep the battalions together, have thought proper not to abandon the soldiers, convinced that they will always remain faithful to your majesty, and your laws. Nor will the undersigned retire from their present post, until your majesty deigns to order that the royal guard shall receive a satisfactory guarantee. To force they will never yield, for they prefer death to dishonour.—(Signed, in the names of all,) COUNT DE MOY."

permanent deputation of the cortes, on the 4th, communicated to the king, that, if his majesty did not that very evening escape from the captivity in which he was held, the nomination of a regency would be necessary, according to the provisions of the Constitution. His majesty replied, that he had given necessary orders for the distribution of the battalions of the Prado into several garrisons; that, as soon as this measure should have been carried into effect, the two battalions who occupied the palace should march out to be stationed in their barracks, leaving the usual guard; and that if all this was not done, the deputation might act according to the text of the Constitution.

The soldiers of the palace intimated to the king, that they began to feel distrust with respect to the halberdiers who guarded the doors of the interior apartments, and entreated his majesty to allow soldiers of the battalions to be substituted for them. This proposal alarmed the king: in vain he endeavoured to make them listen to reason. It was at last agreed upon, that each sentinel of the halberdiers should be watched over by one from the battalions.

Communications of a quite different nature took place between the king and his council of state, which was assembled during several hours. His majesty reduced his letter to these points: first, to demand guarantees for his life, threatened by a republican and anarchical faction; second, to ask of the council its advice in regard to the means to be taken to make those soldiers return to their duty with honour, who had been led astray for a moment by the insults heaped upon them by the *Liberaux*; third, to censure the conduct of General Riego, who had wished to seize upon the command of the troops; fourth, to inquire into the spirit which reigned in the council.—The council answered: first, that they could not offer any guarantee to his majesty for the preservation of his life, since it was his majesty himself who had willingly placed himself in the hands of a lawless band of assassins, and that the constitutional troops would already have obtained possession of the palace, if they had not feared that they might endanger the life of the king, by exposing him to the spite of the factious; secondly, that the only measure to be taken with the battalions of

the guard was to punish them according to the rigour of military law, and that the word *honour* ought not to be pronounced in speaking of disorderly soldiers, traitors to their country and their oaths; thirdly, that the conduct of General Riego did not warrant the strange accusation made against him; that his majesty had doubtless been led into error by the calumnies published in the *Imparcial*, a journal paid by the Holy Alliance; fourthly, that the council of state had taken an oath to the Constitution, which all its members would sustain to the last gasp. The king said, in his letter, that the social compact was dissolved, and that he had again entered upon his rights: to which the council replied, that if the compact was broken, it was not the fault of the nation; and that his majesty had no rights but those which the Constitution granted him. The council finished, by conjuring the king to take some prompt resolution, in order to rescue himself from his present dangerous and humiliating situation.

By break of day on the morning of the 6th, a movement was observed at the Prado, among the mutinous guards, who reconnoitered the *Puerta de Hierro*, where the advanced posts of the constitutional forces were stationed. They were charged by the valiant regiment of Almanza, and driven back with loss. On their return to their positions, they shot a very distinguished officer, whom they had taken with them by force, and who several times wished to escape. During the remaining part of the day, the military posts within the city were strengthened, and the militia remained under arms.

At length, the morning of the decisive day arrived. The battalions of the rebel guards had fixed upon the 7th for making an attack upon the capital, securing to themselves the person of the monarch, and overturning the present order of things. At about a quarter before three in the morning, there was firing heard in the street *de la Luna*, the result of an encounter with the vanguard of the mutinous battalions, who had by stealth introduced themselves, under the protection of darkness, into the capital. The battalion of half-pay officers, under the command of Don Evarista San Miguel, both in the same street, and in that of *Fountain*

del Cura, exerted themselves so as to introduce confusion into the guards, who fled, leaving their muskets, knapsacks, and equipage. At the same time, the square of the Constitution was attacked by a brisk fire on three points; but the brave national militia, and the no less brave national artillery, under the command of the valiant Captains Bayona and Ribera, defended the entrances into this square, and repulsed the insurgents, who, with the subversive shouts of "Long live the absolute king!" had directed their attacks upon the square: they were forced to fly precipitately, and in the greatest disorder, leaving their wounded and dead scattered in the streets. In the mean time, the commandant-general, Don Pablo Morillo, who happened to be in the park of artillery at San Gil, was informed of the object of this sudden and unexpected attack; for sudden and unexpected it must be called, since nobody thought that the inhabitants of Madrid, its militia, and troops, could be attacked in so unjust and treacherous a manner. In this situation, then, a soldier of the guards presented himself as a prisoner to his excellency, saying, that the above-mentioned battalions from the Prado had entered Madrid, by forcing the gates of San Bernardino and San Fernando. This intelligence inflamed the mind of his excellency, and of the brave men who stood by him, to such a pitch, that their indignation cannot be expressed. The general, and all who were under his orders, swore anew to die or to be free; and, at the shout of "Long live the Constitution!" all prepared themselves for the conflict. At this moment, a Captain D. Lewis Mora appeared before General Morillo as a prisoner; and being asked what were the plans of the insurrectionary battalions, this person gave him to understand that they entertained hopes which had been disappointed. While this passed, and while the commandant-general saw some of the insurgent troops arriving by the royal stables, he made preparations that a battalion of the officers, and soldiers of the same guard, (who had abandoned their seditious companions, after refusing to partake in their infamous perjury, in order to follow the standard of their country,) should immediately take possession of the stables, to restrain the audacity of the insurgents, who had gone there with

the like intent, and with that of attacking a division of the park of artillery. While this was happening, a strong column of the guards, headed by their commandant Mery, had placed themselves in the *Puerta del Sol*. The brave General Ballasteros, who was in the park of artillery, as soon as he heard the first firing, obtained permission from the captain-general to attack this column, and, taking with him a piece of artillery and a battalion of militia, immediately assaulted it. The column, after a short resistance, dispersed, part by the street of Montera, and part by that of *la Arenal*, pursued by the cavalry under the command of Brigadier Pallaria: this last street was crossed by the national militia, and a cannon, which was directed against the guards. Victory was soon decided; and the rebels, routed in all directions, saw themselves under the necessity of seeking an asylum in the palace of the monarch. The valiant regiment *del Infante*, the national militia, and the artillery, confined them within the narrowest limits, obliging them to listen to terms, and pointing out his majesty as intercessor. Yet there wanted not among them instigators to a further opposition to the constitutional power; nor were the spirits of the men entirely subdued by their failure, though many of them complained, that they had been vilely deceived where they looked for support, and abandoned by the very persons who led them into the desperate enterprise.

The permanent deputation of the cortes, which, by the want of communication with the ministers of his majesty, (who were detained in the palace from the preceding day,) saw itself in the last extremity, convoked a junta, composed of two counsellors of state, two of provincial deputation, three of the constitutional municipality, and two generals of the garrison, to deliberate upon a message to be addressed to his majesty, for the purpose of putting an end to those horrors and outrages which the infamous aggression of the seditious guards had occasioned. The Marquess of Casa Sarria, accompanied by the commandants of the guards, (chiefs of the battalions who remained in the palace, and who had not taken any decided part in the insurrection,) delivered an answer from his majesty, confined to a manifestation of his desire to stop the effusion of blood, but

declaring, that it was not consistent with the dignity of his royal person that his guards should be disarmed, as it appeared to be desired. On this point, there arose a serious and violent discussion, in which the president of the deputation of the cortes, the syndical procurer of the constitutional junta of Madrid, Don Gabriel Jose Garcia, Lieutenant-general D. Jose de Zavas, Don Arias Gonsalo de Mendoza, and D. Antonio Ruiz, alcalde and regidor of the junta, Don Juan Antonio Castejon, and Senors Nunez and Florez Calderon, persons belonging to the permanent deputation, together with those of the provincial deputation, Don Roman Corona Calderon de la Barca, and the counsellors of state, Blake and Luyando, took part against the king's message. In favour of it were the Marquess of Casa Sarria, and D. Carlos Heron. It was agreed to tell his majesty, that, as a preliminary to any arrangement, it was necessary for him, in order to prove that he was at the full liberty which the direction of the business of the state required, to entrust the protection of his royal person to subjects faithful to the oaths which they had taken, and by no means to a guard which had disgraced their laurels by the most incredible perjury and the blackest perfidy. They represented, that the four battalions who had committed the hostile aggression which had so much endangered the tranquillity of the capital, and along with it the liberties of their country, should immediately surrender their arms, unless they desired to become victims to the just fury of an irritated people, and of a valiant and victorious garrison and national militia; that, with respect to the two battalions remaining in the palace, who did not appear guilty of such horrible crimes, and were only answerable for an assassination committed on the person of one of their most meritorious officers, they might be permitted to leave the capital with their arms, but divided from each other, and forced to give up for punishment those who were guilty of that assassination. The messenger of his majesty returned to the palace with this proposition of the above-mentioned junta; and his majesty having agreed with it, they gave the necessary orders to the captain-general to carry into effect this arrangement—the only one that could calm the effervescence and furious agitation which

pervaded the minds of almost all the inhabitants of the capital.

When this measure was about to be carried into effect, the battalions of the guards who were condemned to surrender their arms, took to flight, some by the Campo del Moro, and others by the gate of Segovia, in the direction of the Ceutas de Alcorcon. Immediately, two pieces of artillery, a battalion of militia, two squadrons of cavalry, and a battalion of officers, under the command of Don Evarista San Miguel, were despatched in pursuit of them. The wounded and prisoners belonging to the liberticide faction, who had endeavoured to create a horrible day of mourning for Madrid, and of everlasting affliction for all Spain, were treated by the conquerors with a generosity and compassion, as worthy of the men who love freedom, as disregarded by the wretched slaves who fight for the vile gains with which their blood is bought, and which covers them with opprobrium and ignominy. The conduct of the brave national militia, of the no less gallant regiments of the garrison and of the artillery, was above all praise. The gallant Generals Morillo and Ballasteros exhibited a valour and enthusiasm of which they have often given proofs in the field of battle. The moment the latter presented himself in front of the troops, to direct the attack which was made on the *Puerta del Sol*, he inspired such enthusiasm by his presence, as would have been enough to have overcome a whole army. It would be impossible to enumerate the distinguished actions witnessed this day; but we cannot pass on without noticing the gallantry of Colonel Scoane, who, being placed in front of a company of grenadiers, in the street Arenal, shewed such an excess of bravery, that he advanced upon the mutineers till their bayonets touched the chest of his horse, and he fell dead with the effect of five shots. It would have appeared a miracle, had this brave officer escaped with his life from such a danger. General Riego, and the gallant and patriotic Alava, animated the friends of freedom with their presence.

The insurgent guards who escaped on the 7th from the palace, at the moment when the capitulation was about to be executed, and who fled into the fields by the bridge of

Segovia, were briskly pursued by a squadron of the regiment of Almanza, and by the cavalry of the national guard, with a piece of artillery. Frequent charges were made by the cavalry, in which many of the insurgents were killed. When arrived at the pass of Alcorcon, the guards separated into three detachments, each taking a different direction. One, the most numerous of them, scaled the walls of the *Casa del Campo*, and from thence fired on the cavalry. Those insurgents who could not succeed in taking refuge in the *Casa del Campo*, were exposed to a continued pursuit. The plain was covered with the killed and wounded, and some prisoners were made. The cavalry pushed on to the village of Humera, where they halted. In that place they were reinforced by a squadron of the regiment *del Principe*, with Brigadier-general Pallaria at its head. Night was fast coming on, and this squadron, together with some detachments from the regiment of Almanza, repaired to watch the motions of the guards shut up in the *Casa del Campo*. The cavalry succeeded in gaining an entrance into this pleasure-house of the king, by a gate which opened on the fields. The insurgents occupied an advantageous position, and had formed themselves in a square, waiting for the attack. Before the cavalry drew up in order of battle, Casero, lieutenant of the guards, who accompanied them, was sent to summon the insurgents to surrender, with the assurance that their lives should be spared. The obscurity of the night, the position occupied by the guards, and the small force of the column of cavalry, all conspired to render this course a prudent one. Lieutenant Casero returned with an officer of the insurgents, bringing their consent. The fusils of the guards were formed into bundles; and, at two o'clock on the morning of the 8th, these revolted were conducted in two columns to Madrid, and there placed in confinement. Their number was three hundred and sixty soldiers, and nine officers.

The fugitives of the morning of the 7th, and those who in the evening had been unable to effect an entrance into the *Casa del Campo*, again united at the Prado, and from thence proceeded towards the Escorial. This re-union rendered it necessary, on the 9th, to send thither a column of

infantry and cavalry, with a piece of artillery, to force the revolted to submission. These troops were under the command of Brigadier Don Joseph Ruiz Torras; who despatched an officer to the Escorial, with offers of peace; which were accepted. The number of guards, prisoners at the barracks of the ex-bodyguards, was, on the morning of the 10th, eight hundred and twenty, without including the wounded in the hospitals.

On the restoration of tranquillity at Madrid, the first step was to inquire into the cause of the late revolt, and to inflict punishment on its chief instigators. The following is the manner in which government announced the resolution of the executive on this subject: "To satisfy the just impatience which the national militia and all good men have manifested, that prompt and complete justice may be exercised towards the promoters and accomplices of the late revolt, his majesty has ordered a council of war to be formed, composed of officers of the garrison and of the militia, which is empowered to take evidence, and to conclude this cause within the shortest time possible. The royal resolution was communicated this evening (July the 14th) to the national militia, with an announcement, at the same time, that the council had divided the accused into four classes: first, that of officers; secondly, that of soldiers who had been found firing; thirdly, that of those who were apprehended with arms in their hands; and fourthly, that of those who were found without arms. It was at the same time announced to the militia, that the council were of opinion this affair could be terminated in three days. The militia are at the same time apprized, that General Espinosa had proposed that the two battalions of guards, who are quartered in Viscalvaro and Laganas, should remain in those quarters till the insurgents of Guadalaxara are overpowered—an event which is expected soon to happen. Orders are at the same time communicated by the secretaries of state, to different generals, and civil officers, immediately to leave Madrid. Lieutenant-general the Marquess of Castellar goes to Carthagená; the Count de Casasarria, to Valencia; Lieutenant-general Francisco Longa, to Badajoz; and Brigadier D. Juan Sanchez Cisneros, to Avila. The reforms of the palace

are not announced; but it is said that they will immediately follow. It must be confessed, that the purification of the palace is a work not so easy as might be supposed, and that it may be compared to that of the stables of Augeas, which required the strength of a Hercules: but every thing must have a beginning; and, in appointing faithful chiefs in all branches, the reform of the present holders of office will be easy, and the conduct of their successors very different."

The municipality of Madrid presented to the king, on the 9th, a very energetic address, which produced a great impression. The following is a copy of this curious document.—

"SIRE,—Fully convinced that the late events, of which this heroic city has been the theatre, shall have removed from the royal mind of your majesty the melancholy illusions, by means of which perfidious men had endeavoured to blind it, the constitutional municipality of the capital of Spain is eager to carry to the foot of the throne the most sincere expression of its sentiments and its wishes for the preservation of the state, and of its constitutional monarch. The municipality thinks it cannot render to its king a more precious service, than to represent to him, in time, the necessity of adopting prompt and energetic measures, which may save the country, by causing to cease, in a certain and radical manner, the calamities which afflict it. We are still in time, Sire, but perhaps the opportunity may never again occur, to remedy the evil. The means are simple; and, once adopted, the social edifice will be constructed on solid foundations, which neither the present generation, nor that which is to come, will see shaken. The first of these means is, that your majesty, being at last convinced that the true friends of your life and of your glory are the defenders of the fundamental law which guarantees both, should put yourself, in good faith, at the head of the patriotic cause, and give public and private proofs of your being identified with it. To give the first proof that your majesty has sincerely embraced that cause, nothing is so necessary, as to nominate for ministers, in lieu of those who have resigned, men of known ability,

notoriously devoted to the system, gifted with an energy and activity sufficient to reanimate our social constitution, which is languishing and enfeebled by the bad faith of some, and the indolence and unskilfulness of others. Your court, Sire, or rather domestic establishment, is composed (such is the public conviction) of permanent conspirators against liberty. The retention of any one among them would deprive your majesty of the confidence of your faithful Spaniards; and never was it more necessary than at present, for the safety of the state and of your majesty, that your majesty should recover that confidence. An act, Sire, not less interesting for the re-establishment of public tranquillity, and for the security of all, is the exemplary and prompt punishment of the traitorous and perjured agents who caused the blood of those to flow, who had committed no other crime than that of remaining faithful to their sacred oaths. A prompt and severe punishment, such as the laws require for their preservation, spares many victims, economizes precious Spanish blood, and prevents the horrible crimes which might cause it still to flow. It is likewise of essential importance, that those two battalions who belonged to your guard, in conformity with the word of your majesty, pledged two days ago, should be removed from the capital, and from each other, and sent to points where they cannot create anxiety and suspicions, calculated to compromise the public tranquillity. If to these measures we add that of placing at the head of the provinces (in places where they are wanting) active chiefs, of approved talents and virtues, and professing an indispensable adherence to the system, the remedy would be complete. Despise, Sire, those perfidious men who endeavour to mislead your royal mind by fanatic illusions, in making it fear, that, under the shade of liberty, there exist only disorganizing and regicide projects; which no Spaniard conceives, or can conceive. Become the first Liberal of the nation; and, instead of fearing, you will be feared. Yes; you will be feared by the wicked, and adored by all virtuous men, who alone are entitled to the glorious name of Liberals. Do not, Sire, include in that class the defamers of their fellow-citizens, the vicious men who abuse liberty. No! such people belong not to the category of