

['The criminals have escaped!' exclaimed a voice in the crowd.] 'Would to Heaven,' added the speaker, 'that all those who are like them were now a thousand leagues from the Peninsula!' [Murmurs of disapprobation.] 'Citizens, I have given proofs of my patriotism; and you cannot justly doubt my sentiments. I should be heartily glad that all the criminals should expiate their treason on the scaffold; but when we have no certain proofs to go upon, why should we be *exalted*? The society has sent out persons to see what is going on in the capital, and they say that every thing remains perfectly tranquil.' [Several voices, 'We want no moderation.'] 'The question here is not about moderation; and I have repeatedly said in this tribune, that I sincerely wished, because I thought it necessary, that all those implicated in the events of the 7th of July should pay the forfeit of their crimes.' [One voice, 'We want no deceivers.'] 'The question here is as little about deceivers. For my part, I will not approve the conduct of government, if these reports be true; but until we know that they are true, how can we take any part?' [A voice, 'They are true; I have seen the culprits on their way out of the Peninsula.'] 'Citizens, I have sworn to die for the Constitution; I am ready to fulfil this oath: do you desire more? He who interrupts me, let him mount this tribune, and shew that he has done more for the cause of liberty than I have done. Citizens, while the defenders of the 7th of July exist, you have nothing to fear; but let us hope that the day is distant when it may be necessary for that body to prove its valour once more. Remember, you have need of much precaution: consider what a triumph it would be for the Serviles,\* if, upon the ground of such rumours as these, of the truth of which we are not assured, we should rush out into the streets, and make a tumult.' ['Yes, the report is true,' exclaimed many voices; 'we know it to be true.']

"Citizen Floran occupied the tribune for the third time. 'Citizens,' said he, 'do me the favour to hear me. Floran has often assured you, that the orators who are in the habit

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\* "Those inclined to the old regime."

of addressing you are worthy of your confidence; but, if you doubt them, it is in the power of any one amongst you to enter this tribune, and to shew the contrary. The people are sovereign; but you ought to respect this place. This very night it is perhaps essentially necessary for you, above all others, to preserve silence and order. No more murmurs then: he who has any thing to say, let him ascend this tribune. It matters not if you are unaccustomed to the art of speaking in rounded phrases: all that the country requires is, that you may speak of its interests. For the rest, you well know, that those men whose love of liberty has identified them with the country, are sufficient to crush all our enemies, even though the congress of Verona, and France, should come forward, trailing behind them the chains of slavery. Let the signal of battle be given: then you will be seen, in the proud attitude of freemen, combating for your liberties, and conquering its enemies. Yes, you will conquer them; since one freeman is worth three thousand slaves! Thus animated by the spirit of liberty, three hundred Greeks vanquished as many millions who sought to oppress them.' [This address to the passions produced no effect: Floran, popular as he is, was obliged to stop, so great was the confusion of many voices, all raised to tones of indignation. The vice-president rung his bell in vain, and threatened to put an end to the sitting, if order were not restored.]

"It was now ten o'clock, and the return of order appeared very unlikely, until Romero Alpuente took his seat, as president of the society. He was received with repeated *vivas*, as was also the political chief of the province, Palarea, who came in shortly after.

"Citizen Gorostiza took this opportunity of announcing the flight of the 'regency' of Urgel from the territory of Spain.

"Alpuente ascended the tribune. It was some time before he could speak, so incessant and boisterous were the applauses with which he was received. At length he was audible. 'Citizens,' said he, 'it appears that tranquillity has been a little interrupted here, by the reports which are current about this devil of a *Tintin*. (*Tintin* is a nickname for San Martin.) The society will have, first, to verify the fact;

next, to examine the motives which led to his apprehension; and, thirdly, inquire why these motives have disappeared? These were points into which they could not enter at present, as they had not sufficient data; and he therefore recommended them to let the inquiry stand over. The orator then delivered a homily upon the necessity of applying themselves to the acquisition of political knowledge. 'Knowledge alone,' he contended, 'forms the ground for that preference which one man gains over another, and free citizens ought to emulate each other in pursuing it, as they would be all thus enabled, in turn, to serve their country. Two hours are enough for eating, eight hours for sleeping, four for amusement and visiting, and the remaining ten of the twenty-four should be dedicated to intellectual acquirements.'

"Alpuente was heard calmly; the sitting ended; the meeting quietly dispersed; and thus ended the business of this threatening evening."

After the events of the 7th of July, the king was watched with a jealous eye by the constitutional authorities, and indeed was, in reality, as much a prisoner in the capital, as he had ever been at Fontainebleau, under the vigilant observation of Buonaparte. The questionable sincerity of his majesty towards the Constitution, or, rather, the conviction that he had only adopted it through the force of circumstances, would, to a certain extent, justify the severity observed towards his movements; particularly as some obscure designs seemed to be on foot, for removing him beyond the Pyrenees.

With a view of rendering the person of the king secure, household guards and officers were appointed, in whom the new government could confide. These guards, armed with small carbines, were stationed in different parts of the palace; and the avenues were lined night and day with battle-axe men. Formerly, strangers had little difficulty in entering the palace, and viewing the magnificent pictures and superb furniture which it contains; but, during the latter months of the year 1822, no one was permitted to enter, who was not known to be connected with the household or the guards; and the persons of all those who came out were strictly examined, before they were allowed to pass.

On court-days, indeed, the prohibition of entrance was necessarily dispensed with; but very few attended these ceremonies, except the *Liberals*. Those who were known to be friendly to his majesty, absented themselves for several reasons; for those to whom he paid any particular marks of attention, subjected themselves to all the odium of Serwilism, and exposed themselves to the danger of persecution and denunciation.

A gentleman who was resident at Madrid during this period, has published, in a periodical work, the state ceremony used when his majesty and the royal family took their short excursions in the neighbourhood of the capital. As this recital, besides being entertaining, bears the mark of authenticity, it is subjoined.

“One day,” says he, “I happened to be in the square before the palace, when I observed a number of state-carriages going towards the principal entrance. I was told, that the king, and the whole of the royal family, were just about to take their usual promenade; and I had the curiosity to see how they appeared. The principal entrance is a gateway, which, during the day-time, is a common thoroughfare, as it leads to the interior square of the palace, in which all the offices of state are situated. On the right hand, is the grand staircase: it was lined with battle-axe guards. A party of the carabineers before noticed, and four or five grenadiers, occupied the lower steps, and stood on each side of the king’s carriage, which was in waiting. The infantry-guards were drawn up in the square before the palace; and a body of horse-guards, to the number of five or six and twenty, was waiting also in the square, to escort (*i. e.* to guard) the royal carriages. In the passage were two or three military men, in undress, and seven or eight old women, who were waiting to present memorials to the king, though they could scarcely have been ignorant that the time for asking favours from the king of Spain, was past. After waiting some time, the king and queen descended the staircase, attended by several officers of state, in full dress: dark blue coats, turned up with crimson, laced with gold, in the usual military fashion, white smallclothes, and white silk stockings. Such was also the dress of the king; in

addition to which, he wore a blue ribband over his left shoulder, and a star on his breast. The queen, a slight, genteel figure, with a small round countenance, feminine and timid, and not more, I should think, than eighteen or nineteen years old, appeared in a pink satin hat, very plain, and a blue silk mantle, edged with ermine, which covered the remainder of her dress. Her face has a mild beauty in it, which strongly interests a spectator: it looked, on this occasion, pale, and oppressed with inward suffering. The face of the king is remarkable for the vacancy,—I fear I must say, the deformity,—of its expression. The chin and lower lip protrude considerably beyond the line of the upper features, and seem scarcely to belong to them; the upper lip is enveloped in mustachios; and yet, with these features of the dumb animal tribe, there is a mixture of intelligence, loftiness, and feebleness, in his eye, which indicates a very peculiar character. Two of the officers of state placed themselves at each side of the carriage-door, offering their shoulders to the assistance of her majesty while getting in. I observed, that she merely took the hand of the king, and got in, not without some effort, without availing herself of the assistance proffered by the officers of state. She smiled not; she scarcely looked around her; and addressed not a syllable to any body. The king, who is a good portly figure, before he followed the queen, looked around, like a man who wished to give an impression that he was a free agent, but who betrayed his real state of duress by a certain awkwardness which he could not control. He was as reserved and silent as the queen. There is only one step, which is firmly fixed outside, beneath the door of the carriage, and this is so high, that both their majesties were obliged to ascend to it by means of a footstool. The footstool was then strapped behind, where it hung dangling as the carriage drove off. Before he left the palace, his majesty put out his hand from the window, and received the several petitions which were presented to him. I was rather surprised that this custom was permitted to remain, as it might easily have been made the vehicle of private communications to the king, which the whole system of the household was framed to intercept.

Don Carlos, the king's eldest brother, and very like him, with the exception that his figure is short, his wife, and family, followed in the second coach, equally reserved. Don Francisco and his consort followed in the third. He has a good face, but a short figure. In getting in, he gave one or two of the officers a nod of recognition, and forced a smile into his countenance, which seemed to be very little valued by those for whom it was meant. Don Francisco was popular before the 7th of July, but, since that time, his star has grown pale. The three carriages rolled away, without a cheer, or an expression of any sort, from the persons present. They were immediately joined by three other state-carriages, filled with the officers of the household; and the whole cavalcade was attended by the escort already noticed. The infantry received it in a respectful manner, the band playing, and the standard lowered, as it passed. Thus the king and the royal family took their rides every afternoon, the weather permitting, thus attended, thus guarded. If they had amongst them a spark of sentiment, they must have envied the humblest cottager whom they met on the road; for he was free to breathe the mountain air, and to turn the head of his mule to whatever point of the compass he pleased."

Before I enter upon the more important period of our history, which commenced in hostile demonstrations, and terminated in an invasion of the country, it may not be amiss to remark, as illustrative of the national character, that the people generally, and particularly those of the capital, seemed in no degree affected with the dangers which surrounded them. Their public sports\* and entertainments were entered

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\* In Madrid, as in other principal towns in Spain, the favourite amusement of the people is that of bull-fights. One of these exhibitions, which occurred in the month of December, at the close of the year 1822, is thus described by an English gentleman, who happened to be in the capital at that time.—“My prejudices against bull-fights were strong; but happening, one Sunday, to see crowds of men, women, and children, hastening to the amphitheatre, I could not avoid following in their train. Shortly after three o'clock, crowds began to pour in rapidly. The women and young girls were all in their hair, but covered, the better sort with black lace veils, and those of the less affluent classes with a black silk veil bordered with lace. The greater number of them had

entered upon with the utmost avidity; while the country was harassed by internal factions, threatened with a foreign

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also their fans, which the Spanish women use, not only to cool their faces in warm weather, but to guard their eyes from the sun, as their head-dress is ill calculated for this purpose. It was not uninteresting to a stranger, to hear the members of the different parties recognizing each other by such names as Barbara, Magarita, Herminia, Olympia, Nicanora, Nicolassa, Fernandina, Innocentio, Patricio, Francisco, Pedro, and others of similar terminations. The director, dressed in the ancient Spanish style, with a short black mantle, a hat turned up at the sides, and, on the left side, a plume of red and white feathers, rode into the arena upon a handsome charger. After receiving the keys of the den from the alcalde who presided, and who sat in a box on the right of the king's box, he gave directions for the entertainment to commence. Two horses immediately appeared in the arena, each laden with two clownish riders, who were seated on a pad, back to back. The hindermost rider kept his place by holding in his hand a cord attached to the pad. In his right hand, he bore a long wooden staff, pointed with iron. A bull was then let into the arena, the tip of whose horns was made harmless by being covered with lead. As soon as he saw the horses, he proceeded directly against one of them; and the combatants, who were apparently new to the office, offering no effectual resistance with their spears, he easily overthrew both horse and riders. He then attacked the other: and this contest was continued for some time with alternate success; the bull, however, being most frequently the conqueror, to the great amusement of the spectators. Upon a flourish of trumpets being given, this bull retired, and two fresh horsemen, on separate horses, entered. They were handsomely dressed in white and red silk jackets, decorated with gold lace: their hats were white, with a wide leaf, and a low round crown. These also carried each a long wooden staff, or spear, with an iron spike in the end of it. A bull was then admitted, whose horns were in their natural condition.—Nothing can be finer than the entry of a fierce, proud bull, into the arena. He rushes in; astonished by the crowd of spectators, he stops awhile, and looks around him; but when his eye lights on the horsemen in the arena, he paws the ground with the majesty of a lion, and summons up all his fury for the contest.—This engagement being attended with danger both to the horse and rider, it excited strong interest. One of the combatants, or, as they are called in Spanish, *picadores*, (pikemen,) was thrown to the ground; but happening to be near the boundary of the arena, some of the spectators came to his assistance, and delivered him from the rage of the ferocious animal. The attention of the bull was, in the mean time, diverted by the *banderilleros*.—These are pedestrian performers, who carry in one hand a flag (*banderilla*) of yellow or red silk, with which they approach the bull. As soon as he sees the gaudy colour, he rushes towards it; and the flag-bearer runs with all his speed to escape over the boundary,

invasion, and reduced almost to the verge of national bankruptcy. Indeed, the finances were in a state of indescribable

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trailing the flag behind him : if he be in danger of being overtaken, he lets the flag fall on the ground ; the bull immediately stops, and vents all his rage upon it, as if under the impression that it conceals his adversary, while the fugitive has time to get away in safety.—The bull being now pretty well fatigued, the *banderilleros*, who were also handsomely, though very lightly, dressed, armed themselves with two strong steel darts each. They were short, fitted for the hand, and decorated with pieces of cut paper, so as to disguise them. It was the object of each performer to run towards the bull with agility, and, just as the animal was in the act of stooping the head to toss him, to fix the two darts in the back of the neck. As soon as the bull felt the points of the weapons, he lifted his head again, from the pain, without attempting to touch his adversary, who thus had time to escape. The animal immediately endeavoured, by tossing his head, to get rid of the darts ; but this he was not often able to accomplish, as they were strongly bearded : and sometimes he was seen raging round the arena, his neck bristled with these torturing instruments. At length, when he was almost exhausted, a *matador* (slayer) approached him, holding in his left hand a large red flag, with which he engaged the bull's attention for awhile, until, finding him in a convenient position, he thrust beneath the shoulders, and up to the very hilt, a long sword, which he held in his right hand, and which he had hitherto concealed from the eye of the animal as much as possible. The bull now fell ; but was not yet quite dead, when an attendant came with a short knife, which he infixed at the junction of the spine with the head, and instantly put an end to his agonies. He was then dragged across the arena by three horses, and carried away. Two bulls were killed in this manner. The second was an immensely strong one : he leaped after the *banderilleros* twice over the boundary ; but, from the arrangement already mentioned, he was driven back into the arena, without doing any mischief.—A third bull was killed in the following barbarous way. A green fir-tree was planted in the arena, immediately opposite the gate at which the bulls enter. Before this tree, a man, covered with a kind of armour, of stiff canvass, and having a false head of a monster, with the mouth open, superadded to his own stature, knelt on one knee. A thick wooden pole, pointed with a strong steel blade, was given to him ; and fixing the lower end of it in the ground, he sloped the point so as to meet the bull on entering at the gate. The pole being so fixed, the gate was opened, and a wild bull immediately rushed in, with such amazing force, that the spear penetrated completely through the ribs, and came out near the back. Still the animal was not mortally wounded : he attacked his adversary furiously ; who, pretending to be dead, permitted himself to be rolled about. The bull, seeing the thing before him apparently shapeless and void of life, soon left it, and ran, maddened, over the arena, the spear still remaining in his side. It was



derangement. The energies which the government was compelled to put forth for the extinction of the insurgents, tended only to augment the financial embarrassments of the country, and to spread the flame of discontent. The loan which had been contracted in the year 1821, in London, though apparently calculated to place one hundred and forty millions of reals at the disposal of the ministers for supplying the deficiency of the year, fell very short of its expected effect; and before the middle of the year 1822, the deficiency of the general revenue amounted to nearly two hundred and sixty-six millions. Such were the difficulties of the Spanish government, when the moment arrived in which they were called upon to provide a resistance to a powerful enemy. In the autumn of this year, preparations were making by the

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a shocking spectacle; but still so strong was the animal, that the matador could not get near enough to kill him, without manifest danger. At length, by means of a curved knife, which was fixed on a long pole, one of the assistants cut the ham-strings. Even after this, the victim made efforts to move; but at last he fell, and his agonies were terminated in the usual manner. Here ended what might be called the second part. The third part was of a more innocent, and also of a more useful character. Five or six bulls, whose horns were leaded, were admitted successively into the arena, and the younger classes of male spectators crowded to emulate each other in worrying the animals. By holding their cloaks before them, or one of those gay silk or worsted scarfs which most of the Spaniards wear under the vest round the waist, they induced the bull to run after them. If he were too quick upon them, they threw down the cloak or scarf, and ran away. Frequently it happened that they could not run fast enough, and the bull laid them prostrate; but his attention being immediately drawn off by another adversary, no harm ensued. One lad, however, in endeavouring to escape, fell down, and, no person happening to be near, a bull was instantly upon him, and raised him aloft on one of his horns as if he were a fly. The lad, with great presence of mind, finding himself thus unexpectedly riding on the horn, caught hold of the one end of it, and was thus carried about the arena. Fortunately for him he was soon tossed off again, without any other injury than a rent in his trowsers. In this part of the entertainment it is, that the national utility of these exhibitions consists; for it serves to accustom youth to danger, to render them active and dexterous, and in some measure to prepare them, by these mimic combats, for contests of a more important description. The whole concluded with a display of fire-works, which was upon a limited scale. There were about five or six thousand persons present."

leading powers of Europe, for the assembling of a general congress for the settlement of the affairs of Europe. According to the declaration of the British ministry, made in parliament, the matter on which it was expected that the congress would be conversant, and to which the preparation of instructions had been particularly directed, was, the state of affairs in the east of Europe—the complicated transactions between Russia and Turkey. Such was the view, at least, which the English government affected to take on the subject; and accordingly, when the Duke of Wellington was sent to represent his Britannic Majesty at Verona, he had received no instructions whatever how to act in reference to Spanish affairs. So far from the French cabinet having given to England any intimation of its intention of introducing such a subject, that, but a short time before, the king of France had officially declared, in allusion to the force he had stationed on the Pyrenean frontier, that the precaution thus adopted had kept contagion from his provinces, although it had ravaged a great part of Spain; that, with the same object only, he meant to maintain the forces he had stationed, and that nothing but ill-will and calumny could find a pretext for giving this precautionary measure a different purpose.

The time was now come, however, in which the French cabinet could no longer conceal its duplicity. When the Duke of Wellington arrived at Paris, on his way to Verona, he soon learnt, from Monsieur Villele, that France had determined to make the affairs of Spain a subject of discussion; and that congress would be required to take into consideration the actual position of the French government in relation to Spain. Thus taken by surprise, his grace lost no time in writing home for instructions how he should proceed upon this new question. The answer returned to the duke, by the British government, was such as became the character of a great and generous nation; and I shall here take the opportunity of expressing an opinion, that throughout the subsequent negotiations, and indeed in all her diplomatic intercourse, England has undeviatingly maintained a conduct distinguished by a magnanimous resistance to arbitrary pretensions, and a scrupulous regard to the independence of nations. The requisition of the Duke of Wellington was dated from Paris,

on the 21st of September, and the instructions transmitted in consequence were conceived in the following terms:—"If there be a determined project to interfere, by force or by menace, in the present struggle in Spain, so convinced are his Majesty's government of the uselessness and danger of any such interference,—so objectionable does it appear to them in principle, as well as utterly impracticable in execution,—that when the necessity arises, or when the opportunity offers, your grace will at once frankly and peremptorily declare, that to any such interference, come what may, his Majesty will not be a party." It is quite obvious that these instructions were not solely nor principally pointed against any individual designs entertained by France, but against any project of the allied powers.

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### CHAPTER XIII.

**Congress of Verona—The Spanish Question introduced—French propositions adopted by Russia, Austria, and Prussia—Rejected by England—High Diplomatic Talents displayed by the Duke of Wellington at Verona—Pacific Conduct of England subsequent to the Breaking-up of the Congress—Negociations with Spain on South American Affairs—Their successful Termination—Offer of British Mediation to France—Rejected—Dubious Conduct of France—French Dispatch to her Minister at Madrid—The Spanish Reply—Declarations of the Allies against Spain—The Russian Note—Answer of the Spanish Cabinet—The three Ministers leave Madrid—Hopes entertained of Accommodation—Spirited Debates in the Cortes on the Foreign Despatches.**

THE Congress commenced its discussions at Verona in the early part of October; and although no formal account of its deliberations has been published, yet the principal points of discussion may be clearly collected from the official documents laid before parliament, and the expositions of his Majesty's ministers in the two houses. On the 20th of October, M. de Montmorency, the French plenipotentiary, introduced the subject of the affairs of Spain, by addressing three questions in conference to the plenipotentiaries of Aus-

tria, Russia, Prussia, and Great Britain. In these interrogatories, he demanded, Whether, if France should feel herself under the necessity of breaking off her diplomatic relations with Spain, the other courts would do the same? Whether, if war should take place between France and Spain, the other powers would afford to France that moral support which would give to her measures the weight of the alliance? And lastly, Whether, if France should desire it, they would lend her effective assistance? and if so, of what form and to what extent?

To these propositions, or more correctly speaking, to these inquiries, answers were given on the part of the three continental powers, professing their readiness to countenance, and, if necessary, to support France in the so specified cases, contingent and precautionary, but not in their nature offensive. But to these propositions, however limited, the British plenipotentiary gave no such answer; in the replies of the three other states, however cautious and conditional, he did not concur. He said, that he was precluded from entering into any concurrence to a hypothetical promise in a hypothetical case, and that he should be informed, distinctly and practically, what offence Spain had actually given to France, and what were the grounds of future offence anticipated by France. He absolutely refused to give the smallest countenance to the imagination of a case, on which, should it occur, he might be called upon to pledge his government to eventual co-operation and concert. The congress, during the weeks of its sitting, discussed the question in all its bearings; but the language of the Duke of Wellington was the same on the last day of the meeting as on the first—a positive refusal to concur in any such measure—a positive refusal to give any answer to the inquiries of France—a positive refusal to have any thing to do with interference, by force or menace, in the internal affairs of Spain. When, at the conclusion of the congress, the great continental powers had agreed with France to transmit to their ministers, at Madrid, several despatches, remonstrating with Spain on the state of her institutions, and calling for changes in them as the price of their continued friendship and forbearance, the British plenipotentiary declined any participation in that proceeding, and declared, on