

six hours, and made the English leader think that the whole French army was before him. Again, his gallantry was the one bright page of the disastrous story of the retreat from Moscow. He was personally the "rear guard of the Grand Army."

In politics, Ney was a thorough republican. He accepted the rule of Napoleon as being the only way in which the fruits of the Revolution could be secured. Anything was better than Bourbon rule. France had had her fill of the exercise of "the divine right of kings." The man who had raised himself to the first place, not by hereditary claims, but by transcendent merit, was, in his eyes, an embodiment of the people. In what he deemed the holy cause of freedom, measures could be taken that were utterly foreign to the true character of this man, who was by nature transparently honest and outspoken. At Fontainebleau, before Napoleon's first capitulation, it was arranged between Ney and his chief that the Emperor should return at the earliest possible moment. Napoleon denied this at St. Helena, but a great part of his recorded utterances, during his captivity, had for their purpose the making of history in accordance with the Napoleonic notion, or the accomplishment of some design buried deep in the breast of the wily Corsican. There is no real doubt that all Ney's subsequent conduct was the acting of a pre-arranged part. He had the special task of securing the confidence of the rethroned monarch. It is not surprising that Louis should harbor a special grudge against the marshal who promised, when sent to meet the escaped prisoner of Elba, to bring Bonaparte to Paris in an iron cage, but who came marching back to the French capital as Bonaparte's right hand man, while *Louis le Désiré* was traversing the well worn road to the Belgian frontier as rapidly as frequent relays of post horses and lavish *pourboires* to the postilions could carry him.

At the close of the battle of Waterloo, Ney, for the last time, covered the retreat of a French army. Ere long, one hundred and twenty thousand brave soldiers were holding Paris so strongly intrenched, that Wellington and Blücher were afraid to attack them. "The longed for Louis" had followed in the wake of the French army, timidly, obediently, almost slavishly, waiting for Wellington to open to him the gates of Paris. A capitulation was arranged, the terms of which were necessarily very comprehensive. A general amnesty was declared as plainly as it was possible to express it. "The inhabitants and all individuals who shall be in the capital shall continue to enjoy their rights and liberties without