

never feared death.—On the day that Deseze made his defence in the Convention, Malesherbes, in a conversation which he had with Louis in the evening, wished to prepare him for the event by hinting that his defence might not be attended with the desired effect, and that the issue of the trial was uncertain. “I understand you,” replied Louis; “but my resolution is already taken. I see, without fear, my last hour approaching; and I shall lay my head on the block without uneasiness. You will perhaps be surprised when I tell you that my wife and my sister think exactly as I do.”

The last requests of the unfortunate Louis breathe the soul of magnanimity, and a mind enlightened with the finest ideas of human virtue. He appears not to be that man which his enemies reported.—His heart was sound, his head was clear, and he would have reigned with glory, had he but possessed those faults which his assassins laid to his charge.—His mind possessed the suggestions of wisdom; and even in his last moments, when the spirit of life was winged for another world, his lips gave utterance to them, and he spoke with firmness and resignation.

Thus ended the life of Louis XVI. after a period of four years detention, during which he experienced from his subjects every species of ignominy and cruelty which a people could inflict on the most sanguinary tyrant.—Louis XVI. who was proclaimed at the commencement of his reign, *The friend of the people*; and by the Constituent Assembly, *The restorer of their Liberties*.—Louis, who but a few years since was the most powerful monarch in Europe, has at last perished on a scaffold. Neither his own natural goodness of heart—his desire to procure the happiness of his subjects—nor that ancient love which the French entertained for their monarch, has been sufficient to save him from this CRUEL SACRIFICE.

THE WILL OF LOUIS XVI.

LATE KING OF FRANCE, WRITTEN BY HIMSELF.

“In the Name of the *Holy Trinity, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost*, this 21st day of December, 1792.

“Louis XVI. by the name of King of France, being for more than four months shut up in the Tower of the Temple of Paris, by those who were formerly my subjects, and being even deprived of all communications with my family from the 11th instant, moreover, implicated in a trial, the issue of which, from the nature of human passions, it is impossible to foresee, and for which there is no pretence nor justification in any existing law; having only God as witness to my thoughts, and to whom I can address myself:

“I hereby declare in his presence, my last wishes and sentiments.

“I leave my soul to God, my Creator. I entreat him in mercy to receive it, and not to judge it according to its deserts but according to those of our Lord Jesus Christ, who offered himself up a sacrifice to God, his Father for us men, however unworthy we might be, and confess myself to be among the first.

“I die in union with our Holy Mother, the Catholic, Apostolic, and Roman Church, which holds its power in uninterrupted succession from St. Peter, to whom Jesus Christ entrusted them: and I confess every thing contained in the Symbol and Commandments of God and the Church, the Sacraments