

and departed without him.

The next day the Prince was still more uneasy, and, having advised the Austrian ambassador, gave notice to the Grand-Chancellor that he would leave the kingdom if Prince Alexander continued his journey; nor will Poland, added he, disapprove of my retiring when I shall inform the public, in a manifesto, that the King intends the throne for the younger son, in prejudice of his elder. It is possible that the Queen had formed this project at this time. The whole life of the Queen, since she became the wife of the King, had been one of constant intrigue, supplemented always by the Jesuit priest who was constantly in court to do her bidding. But the King certainly never thought of it, and had he been at all prejudiced in favor of his younger sons at an age when the dispositions of the mind do not yet unfold themselves, it is probable he would have leaned toward Prince Constantine, the youngest, who was his very picture. But Prince James' passion would suffer him to attend to nothing.

The King ordered him to be told that he might set out with a father's curse attending him whenever he pleased; but that he must never expect to see his sovereign and his father. This menace had no effect upon the Prince, who answered that he was going to retire to the Netherlands, of which Spain had offered him the government. The King was highly