

counts recorded, but till then hardly credited, of Nero and Heliogabalus. At the age of twenty-two the Duke of Chartres married the daughter of the Duke of Penthièvre—a lady who, in addition to the possession of every womanly grace and virtue, also inherited a princely fortune from her father.

The Duke of Orleans being entitled by birth to the high dignity of Grand Admiral, entered the French navy, and, in 1778, commanded one of the divisions of the fleet under the Count d'Orvilliers; but in the famous action with Keppel, off Cape Ushant, in 1778, he retired into the hold of the vessel, and refused to quit it until the engagement had terminated! For this despicable act of cowardice he incurred the deserved contempt of the court, and was in consequence removed from the navy, but appointed colonel-general of hussars—a post created for his especial benefit. To this circumstance may be attributed his undying antipathy to Louis XVI., for taking advantage of the popular commotions occurring at that time, he endeavoured, by every conceivable method, to acquire political power. The death of his father, in 1785, placed him in possession of the hereditary title and estates; and so afforded him not only the means of gratifying his licentious appetites, but also the opportunity of satisfying his revenge against his royal cousin; and he soon rendered himself notorious by the daring manner in which he opposed the authority of the King in the frequent disputes between the Court and Parliament: and at his instigation and direction the most scandalous libels against the Queen were circulated in every direction. All this was not without its effect upon the ignorant and brutal populace, who carried his bust in triumph through the streets of Paris. During the dark days of September, 1792, the Duke, in conjunction with Danton, Robespierre, and Marat, was elected a member of the National Convention, and adopted on behalf of himself and descendants the appellation of "Egalité." To his eternal shame be it recorded, that not only did he vote in favour of the execution of Louis XVI., but that, allowing his desire for vengeance to stifle every feeling prompted by common humanity, or the ties of relationship, was actually present at his execution. But "Citizen Egalité's" triumph was of short duration: cowardly as he was cruel, weak as he was ambitious, he disgusted even the Republican leaders by the intense baseness of his character; and they, finding he was of no further use to them, included his name in the general proscription of the Bourbons. In common with others, "Citizen Egalité" was seized and imprisoned at Mar-seilles; but the tribunal before which he was tried acquitted him of the charge of conspiracy brought against him. The Committee of Public Safety, however, ordered his detention, and after being incarcerated for about six months, he was condemned to death on the 6th of November, 1793. The sentence was executed the same day, when, singular to relate, the craven who in honourable warfare had fled from his post of duty, mounted the steps of the guillotine with firmness and courage. The mob expressed their lively satisfaction when Samson, the executioner, exhibited his head to their gaze. A short time before he was guillotined, he had a banquet prepared with great care, on which he feasted with great eagerness.

Alison, the historian, gives the following description of Egalité's last moments:—

"When led out to execution, he gazed for a time, with a smile on his countenance, on the Palais-Royal, the scene of his former orgies. He was detained above a quarter-of-an-hour in front of that palace by order of Robespierre, who had in vain asked his daughter's hand in marriage, and had promised, if he would relent in that extremity, to excite a tumult which would save his life. Depraved as he was, he had too much honourable feeling left to consent to such a sacrifice, and remained in expectation of death, without giving the expected signal of acquiescence, for twenty minutes, when he was permitted to continue his journey to the scaffold. He met his fate with stoical fortitude; and it is pleasing to have to record one redeeming trait at the close of a life stained by so much selfish passion and guilty ambition—he preferred death to sacrificing his daughter to the tyrant."

The Duke of Orleans was forty-five years old when he died, and it has been remarked of him that—"If he was not the very worst, then he was the most degraded man of his bad times."

Additional Notes to November.

A HIGHWAYMAN A CENTURY AGO!

(29).—It is now just a century ago that JOHN RANN, (alias "Sixteen-string Jack" a name which he acquired by wearing breeches with eight strings at either knee, to record the number of his acquittals) was executed at Tyburn for highway robbery. He was born at a village near Bath, of honest parents. A lady of distinction, who happened to be at Bath, saw the boy one day when he was about twelve years of age, and took him into her service; and when she went to London, she took him with her, and he very soon got initiated into the worst vices of the modern Babylon.

After being servant to several gentlemen, Rann unfortunately, got into bad company, lost his character, and became a notorious pickpocket. Rann was a handsome, impudent fellow, much admired by his companions; and he is described as swaggering at the places of public resort in a scarlet coat, tambour waistcoat, white silk stockings, and laced hat. He drank freely at all times, and on one occasion being intoxicated, and losing a hundred-guinea diamond ring from his finger, he openly boasted that he could replace the lost jewel by one evening's work! It is told of him that he once went to Borneo races dressed in a most elegant sporting style, wearing a blue satin waistcoat trimmed with silver, and was followed by an admiring crowd. He even had the impudence to attend a Tyburn execution, and push his way through a ring of constables, saying that he was just the sort of man who ought to have a good place, as he himself might figure there some day!

A great many of Rann's robberies were perpetrated on Houndlow Heath, and the charge on which he was convicted was for stopping Dr. Bell, the chaplain to the Princess Amelia, and taking from him one-and-sixpence and an old watch. When brought before Sir John Fielding Rann wore a large bouquet of flowers in his coat, and the irons with which he was manacled were tied up tastefully with blue ribbons! At his trial he appeared in a most elegant suit. So confident was he of being acquitted that he had ordered a supper to be provided for the entertainment of his particular friends and associates on the joyful occasion; but alas! their intended mirth was turned into mourning, for he was found Guilty. As Rann passed through the streets of London on his way to Tyburn, he was dressed in a pea-green coat, carrying, as he sat by his coffin—with the chaplain reading prayers to him—an enormous nosegay, presented, according to custom, from the steps of St. Sepulchre's church. When he came near the gallows, he looked at it as an object which he had long expected to see, but not as one that he dreaded, as might reasonably have been expected; and notwithstanding his previous bravado, "Sixteen-string Jack" died penitently.

TO COURT IN TOP-BOOTS!

(30).—"There was formerly a singular parliamentary privilege regarding the dress of county members. And when the resolution for an Address to the King to make peace with America in 1782 was carried by the Opposition by a very small majority, it was decided that the address be taken up to the Throne by the whole House. "In order to mark their sense of the treatment they had been receiving from the Court" (says Professor Pryme, in his *Recollections*), the county members went up to the Throne, according to their privilege, in leather breeches and top-boots, instead of court dress—a privilege, of course, very seldom exercised. The Court was not behind hand with them; for, as a marked and well-understood insult to the Opposition, General Arnold was placed conspicuously on the king's right hand, where he was visible to the whole body of the members."

(General Arnold, in the early part of his career, had devoted his best energies to promote the cause of the revolted Americans, but afterwards disgraced himself by treacherously betraying it, and opened a correspondence with Sir Henry Clinton for betraying West Point to the British, in which negotiation the unfortunate Major Andre became a victim, and was hung by the Americans as a spy. Arnold had a narrow escape, and fortunately got on board a ship of war. He then entered the British service, and was allowed a pension by Government. He died in London, in the year 1801.)

9 morn.
9 morn.
12 night.
11 night.

II.

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of Orleans, the cousin r of Louis throne of he Duke of ie life time cles of un-"and the son," with ed the ac-wager he rsailles to