

best policy ; and by treating every writer with justice, and often with generosity, he acquired a most opulent fortune. He had in his employment gentlemen in every different branch of learning, who were to inform him of the merit of the different books submitted to their inspection. The manuscript in question was transmitted to a Scotch student in the temple, and Burn in the interim received a general invitation to Mr. Miller's table. In eight or ten days, the manuscript was returned to Mr. Miller, with a note that it would be an excellent bargain at two hundred pounds. Next day after dinner, when the glass had begun to circulate, he asked Burn, what was the lowest sum that he would take ? The poor man replied, that the highest offer which he had received was twenty pounds, a sum too small to defray the expences of his journey.—' Will you accept two hundred guineas ?' said Mr. Miller. ' Two hundred guineas !' cried the parson, clapping his hands, ' I am extremely fortunate.'—The book went through many impressions, and Miller, of his own good will, paid the clergyman an hundred pounds additional for each of them. As the author loved port, the bookseller farther gave him a letter of credit for the purchase of a pipe per annum during the rest of his life, in any wine-cellar in London, where he thought proper. ' After all this,' added Mr. Miller, in telling the story, ' I have lived to clear eleven thousand pounds by the bargain.'

CASIMIR II. King of Poland, received a blow from a Polish gentleman, named Koparski, who had lost all he had, while playing with this prince. Scarcely was the blow given, when, sensible of the enormity of his crime, he betook himself to flight, but he was soon apprehended by the King's Guards. Casimir, who waited for him in silence amidst his courtiers, as soon as he saw him appear, addressed them as follows : ' My friends, this man is less culpable than I, since I put myself upon a level with him ; I have been the cause of his violence, and the first emotions of our passion do not depend upon ourselves.' Then turning to the criminal, ' you are sorry for your fault ; that is sufficient, take your money again, and let us renounce gaming for ever.'

STANISLAUS, King of Poland, who by his humanity and sublime virtues, justly acquired the noble epithet of the *Benevolent*, being persecuted by his rebellious subjects, and banished from his territories, was forced to seek an asylum in the

Duchy of Deux-Pont. Here he thought himself in perfect security ; when some desperadoes resolved to seize him, in order that they might deliver him up to those who had set a price upon his head. These wretches, however, were arrested in his presence, when the prince said to them,—' My friends, what have I done, that you should wish to deliver me into the hands of my enemies ? of what country are you ?' Three of these people having replied that they were Frenchmen, ' Well,' returned Stanislaus, ' act like your countrymen, whom I esteem, and shew yourselves incapable of committing a bad action.' When he had finished these words, he gave them every thing he had about him, money, watch, and gold snuff-box, upon which he set them at liberty.

THE grandfather of John Desmarets, assassinated by De Talar, having thrown himself at the feet of Francis I. to request that the assassin of his grandson might be punished : ' Rise up,' said the King, ' it is not necessary to kneel before me to demand justice ; I owe it to all my subjects.' The crime was punished, and Talar had his head cut off at Paris.

CHARLES V. Emperor of Germany, passing once by a village of Arragon, one Easter-day, a person met him, who according to the custom of the country, was crowned Paschal King, and said, gravely to him,—' Sir, it is I that am King.'—' Much good may it do you,' says the Emperor as gravely ; ' you have chosen a troublesome employment.'

THE Count de Lauzun passed the long interval from the year 1672 to 1681 in the prison of Pignerol. It has been well observed by Sterne, that ' with pen, ink and paper, albeit a man cannot get out of prison, he may do very well within, and at last come out a wiser man than he entered ;' but these consolations did not fall to the lot of M. de Lauzun. At a distance from the voice of friend or relation ; without any light except the glimmering thro' the ruins of the roof ; without books, means of occupation, or possibility of exercise ; a prey to hope deferred, corroding langour, and uninterrupted horror ; he at last, as the only means of avoiding insanity, had recourse to the means of taming a spider. ' Misery,' says Trunculo, ' makes a man acquainted with strange companions.' The spider received his flies every morning with gratitude, carried on his webs through the day with alacrity, and engaged the whole attention of his benefactor, until the gaoler, conversant in scenes