

broken, and a general rout immediately ensued. Cali was killed on the field, and Amurath marched into the capital at the head of his victorious army.

His moderation after the victory was as conspicuous as his courage and conduct had been before. He established a regency in the kingdom, and taking with him Cali's sons, together with those of the principal nobility as hostages, he set out on his return home.

It is impossible to describe the feelings of his rebellious subjects when they heard of his approach. Mutual reproaches immediately ensued, and many were slain in consequence of disputes about those who had been most to blame. All however agreed that no mercy could be expected and in despair they levied an army to oppose their sovereign. A battle ensued, in which they were defeated, and he advanced with his faithful followers towards his capital.

The designs of Amurath were only known to himself. His soldiers observed, that as soon as the rebel army was broken, he ordered the pursuit to cease. In procuring the necessary supplies for his troops, he directed that none should be oppressed, declaring that he would not avenge himself on individuals. This led some to imagine that he had purposes of mercy. But when they considered the unprovoked injuries he had received, the murder of his family and friends, they were disposed to think that he would begin at the capital, and order a general execution; for all had been forward in rebellion.

They were astonished that none desired to be admitted into his presence to sue for Mercy. The fact was, that none expected it. They were unable to resist, and, sunk in sullen despondency, they awaited their fate, too proud to present petitions which they had good reason to believe would be unavailing.

Amurath at length arrived at his capital.—None attempted to oppose him, nor did one appear disposed to welcome his return. He went directly to the palace, and saw the spot where his wife and family had been so basely murdered. Overcome with grief, he retired from the company even of his most intimate friends, and, giving orders that he should not be disturbed, he spent all that day, and the following night alone.

In the morning he addressed his army in these words: "You have shared with me, my friends, in my toils, and your faithful services shall be amply rewarded. You have returned to your native country crowned with victory and covered with glory. But, alas! what a change has been produced in your absence! What wretchedness and misery have succeeded the prosperity of this once happy kingdom! How completely are my subjects sunk in vice and debauchery! How eagerly do they endeavour to drown their apprehensions of justice in rioting and madness; and while they dare not oppose me, what disgust do they discover to my government! None have returned to a sense of duty, and they too plainly show that they are filled with implacable enmity against me. Yet wherein have I injured them? what cause of complaint have I given them?"—A thousand voices replied, "They have no cause of complaint; they have rebelled against the best of kings!"—Amurath proceeded: "What sacrifices might I not require of them! what punishment might I not inflict without the charge of cruelty! But still I regard them with pity. I am grieved in my heart at their obsti-

naity; and I am unwilling to proceed to violent measures. It is however impossible to allow them to remain in their present circumstances. This would be to give them up to complete misery. I will still make an effort to reclaim them, and show them that my affection is not extinct. I will publish a general amnesty, inviting them to return to their duty, and assure them in that case of my future protection. Should any disregard my proclamation, they shall be cut off, that others may be warned by their example not to trifle with mercy."

The soldiers expressed by their shouts their approbation of the generosity of their king. He immediately addressed a proclamation to his subjects. He reminded them of the lenity of his government. He painted their ingratitude, in the strongest colours. He declared that he considered them as criminals, justly deserving death, having no claim whatever upon him; but that, from pity of their wretchedness, he hereby proclaimed pardon to all, directing those who were disposed to accept it to present themselves before him, and assuring those who thus returned to their duty, that they should enjoy every token of his royal favour.

It has been observed, that it is more difficult to be reconciled to a person whom we have injured, than to forgive an injury; and the conduct of Amurath's subjects confirmed the truth of this observation. They had acted the most ungrateful part towards him, and their hatred was in proportion to their injustice. The proclamation did not produce the effect which might have been expected. It was treated by many with the most marked contempt. In fact, the clemency of Amurath had lulled the dreadful apprehensions which were at first entertained; and when, instead of a list of executions, a general proclamation of pardon was issued, his subjects seemed to forget their crimes altogether. Many affirmed, that the king by no means considered them so guilty as he had said, else they supposed he would not have shown them mercy.

In general the people were so grossly sunk in debauchery, that they paid no attention to the proclamation. Sometimes they would dispute over their cups whether it were genuine or forged, and, growing bolder by delay, they hesitated not to affirm that it was all a story; for their king could never seriously think that they deserved to die. Others treated it with greater respect, and expressed their gratitude for it, but endeavoured to soften down the harshness, as they termed it, of the expressions employed in describing their guilt, so it was now the general sentiment that many excuses might be alleged for their conduct, if they were at all to blame.

A few, however, were deeply affected by the proclamation; they were overwhelmed by the goodness of Amurath, and, contrasting their own baseness with his clemency, they were impatient to cast themselves at his feet. Persuaded that he was incapable of falsehood, and observing that the pardon was clogged with no conditions, they proceeded to the capital, sincerely confessed with tears their aggravated guilt and received from the king in person an assurance of his favour. He directed them to use every means to induce their fellow-rebels also to submit; and in the meantime, while they conducted themselves with the greatest kindness, not to hold any intimacy, and in particular, that they should not in-

termarry with those who continued in rebellion. By this means the attention of many others was directed to the proclamation, and they were also received into favour.

The more of Amurath's subjects who submitted, the more fashionable did the profession of submission become. Many who were still rebels in heart, joined those who, in obedience to the king's orders, had associated together for their mutual encouragement and for gaining over the rebellious. The consequences were very bad. Instead of submitting to the laws, they indulged their own inclinations, and by their conduct brought reproach on those who, being truly reclaimed, had returned to their former habits of industry with increased regard for their sovereign.

The number of those who merely feigned submission having greatly increased, they began to treat such as openly despised the proclamation with the utmost rigour. They robbed and murdered many of them under pretence of zeal for the king, and frequently boasted of their loyalty, while thus directly disobeying his commands. In vain did his loyal subjects remonstrate against such proceedings. In vain did they show them Amurath's letters, wherein he had forbidden his subjects to use violence towards the rebels, reserving their punishment entirely in his own hands. They still persevered boasting of the reward they should receive for their activity and diligence. They even put to death some of those who would have stopped their proceedings, alleging that they also were traitors.

Amurath gave strict charges to all who submitted, to be careful to train up their children properly, and to teach them early to love his government. Where both parents were of one mind this was generally attended to, and many children very early discovered their love and admiration of the king. Sometimes, however, only one parent was reclaimed, and then, as might be expected, the children were seldom well educated. But what was still worse, some who had been reclaimed forgot the king's commandment not to intermarry with rebels, and, in consequence, many who had submitted relapsed into rebellion, and others spoke and acted in such a manner that it was not easy to know to what class they belonged. The example of such persons proved more hurtful to those who had submitted, than that of the avowed rebels.

It was remarked that some who had been most active in the rebellion and had even been accessory to the murder of the royal family, had been most deeply affected by the proclamation. They were most forward in casting themselves at the king's feet, in the most unreserved manner confessing their crimes, while they pleaded the general promise of pardon. Amurath always treated such with marked affection, and some of them became the most loyal and devoted of his subjects. Others observing this, and considering themselves as much less to blame, expected that they should be rewarded for their submission, or at least in some way distinguished from the more notorious rebels. They sometimes insinuated this when they appeared before the king, and, instead of dwelling on their own guilt and his kindness, they were chiefly concerned to allege excuses for themselves. The king referred such to the proclamation, where his sentiments of their conduct were fully