

# The Traitor

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## CHAPTER I.

### *THE CHEQUES.*

AT twenty minutes to three on the afternoon of May 10th, 1870, a slimly-built gentleman, about five feet nine inches in height, wearing a heavy moustache and long imperial, entered La Banque de Lyon et de L'Espagne, Paris, and calmly made his way over to one of the paying wickets. From the frequency of the gentleman's nods it was evident that he was well known.

The paying teller, before whom he halted, although for the moment engaged, was not too busy to smile obsequiously to the new arrival, and intimate that he would not keep him waiting long. The gentleman nodded politely, and without appearing in the least to mind the delay, drew from his coat a well-nourished pocket-book, opened it absently, took from it a cheque, and then leaned contentedly on the counter as though not in the slightest hurry.

Scarcely, however, had his elbow touched the counter when the teller, in a somewhat loud voice, said: "I can attend to you now, Monsieur Tourville."

Standing at an adjoining wicket were two gentlemen, and one of them, hearing the name, turned