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## CHARACTERISTIC SKETCHES OF THE PRESENT KING OF NAPLES.

[From the *London Chronicle*.]

**F**ERDINAND ANTHONY, the present King of Naples and the Two Sicilies, and who may perhaps one day grace the Spanish throne, certainly leads the most unstately life of any Monarch in Europe; not one of them possesses so much familiar jollity, or pursues mirth and pleasure with so much avidity, and with so much success: and while he resolves to be happy himself, he is equally determined that none of his subjects shall be miserable.

Stories of Monarchs are seldom interesting; one cannot, in general, give credit to tales told of persons to whom few people have access, and whose behaviour towards those few is circumscribed within the laws of insipid and dull routine; but this Prince lives among his subjects with the old Roman idea of a window before his breast.

He rides and rows, hunts the wild boar, catches fish in the bay, and sells it in the market, as dear as he can too; but gives away the money they pay him for it, and that directly: so that no suspicion of meanness, or of any thing worse than a little rough merriment, can be ever attached to his truly honest, open, and undesigning character.

His subjects know, the worst of him is, that he shoots at the birds, dances with the girls, eats macaroni, and helps himself to it with his fingers: he frequently rows against the watermen in the Bay; and in a recent contest of that kind, one of the watermen, in his uncourtly efforts to out do the King, laboured so strenuously as to occasion a violent gush of blood from his nose. By this accident his Ma-

jesty won a trifling wager; he laughed, and leaped on shore amid the acclamations of the populace, who huzzed him home to the palace, from whence he sent double the sum he had won to the waterman's wife and children, with other tokens of kindness.

When the late Emperor, and the Grand Duke (now King of Hungary, talked to him of their new projects for reformation in the church, he told them, he saw little advantage they brought into their states by these new-fangled notions; that when he was at Florence and Milan, not a single Neapolitan could he find in either, while his capital was crowded with refugees from thence; that, in short, they might do their way, but he would do his; that he had not an enemy in the world, public or private; and that he would not make himself any for the sake of propagating doctrines he did not understand, and would not take the trouble to study: that he should say his prayers as he used to do, and had no doubt of their being heard, while he only begged blessings on his beloved people. So if these wise brothers-in-law would learn of him to enjoy life, instead of shortening it by unnecessary cares, he invited them to see him the next morning play a great match at tennis.

His Sicilian Majesty is now at Vienna, where his pleasing singularities engross the attention of the inhabitants of that city, and where his affability gains him universal affection. The two following traits of his conduct at Vienna will further illustrate the picture we have attempted to sketch.