

"But often the prosecuted are."
 "Prosecuted? Is she prosecuted? No, I have taken her under my protection. You do not understand me, Tallien."
 "Oh, I become more and more acquainted with you, Robespierre."
 "All the better. I have told you already that I value very much your friendship."
 "I perceive it. You, as a good friend, put the knife to my throat."
 Robespierre leant over and whispered to Tallien's ear:
 "Take heed, lest I might pass the knife into it. The warrant is in my possession, and should you become faithless, will turn in the hands of Fouquier-Tinville into an accusation!"
 "Oh, I do not doubt it!" answered the young deputy.
 "We are therefore friends?" asked Robespierre maliciously, while he turned round to walk away.
 "Friends, Robespierre, friends!" was the hypocritical reply of Tallien, who was racked with torture.
 Robespierre, with a triumphant smile, repaired to his seat.

CHAPTER XI.
 IN THE LUXEMBOURG.

It was in July of the year 1794, in the Thermidor, as it was called by the new calendar of the republic. The reign of terror was still raging more formidable, inexorable and cruel, than ever. The tribunals, the guillotine, could not despatch as many heads as the powerful Jacobin masters deemed necessary for the preservation of the republic, and introduction of republican virtues. Ten to twelve thousand prisoners in twelve large prisons, now formed the inexhaustible stock from which the Parisian guillotine was daily fed with several dozens of heads. The time had gone by when royalists and ci-devants, priests or Girondists, were dragged before the tribunals; the field was cleared of them. Whoever had not met already with death, or had escaped, was confined in a prison where he was, on account of the great disorder in the management of the tribunals and prisons, often fortunate enough to be forgotten or overlooked from one day to another. There were only a few of them left behind who were permitted to live, and had not yet been regarded as suspicious.
 The victims now were for the most part republicans, whose opinions were deemed too moderate, who wished to put a stop to terror, or had lost their credit with the Jacobins, or appeared dangerous to the ambition of Robespierre. Thus, the Jacobin

faction of the Héberts and Chaumettes were slaughtered, because Robespierre, at the festival in honour of the Supreme Being, wished to be looked upon as the restorer of religion; even the powerful Danton, with his friends, were guillotined, to rid Robespierre of all his rivals.

In the prisons the suspected were often enough crowded together with criminals. There were not sufficient cells left to lock up the prisoners singly; they were either kept in large saloons, or several of them, according to the size of the rooms, had to occupy one room. This overcrowding, and the uncleanness and poisonous air caused by it, had made it necessary to let out the prisoners during the day into the court-yards, where they could unconstrainedly converse together.

This was the case, in the most liberal manner, in the palace of the Luxembourg, a portion of which had been destined for the imprisonment of the political victims. Here was, as it were, the large store-house to which at night the carts came with the fatal list of the victims for the following day.

The prisoners then rushed to the wickets, trembling to hear their names pronounced, while those that were not called, could breathe freely again and live one day longer. And yet, usually, several dozens were called; each one of the victims quickly pressed his companions, his friends, to his heart, then, hastily mounted the cart in which they were conducted to the "conciergerie," then to the palace of justice, and soon after to the scaffold.

The court-yard of the Luxembourg prison was, till sun-set, the place of meeting of the prisoners; they owed this privilege to the jailer, a man as honest as kind-hearted. He granted them all the freedom which the law allowed, while even what was an offence against the law, was permitted them by his daughter, who, by a hundred little services, had made herself indispensable to the female prisoners.

Men and women of every age, superiors and inferiors, dukes and clerks, countesses and grisettes, assembled in the morning in the court-yard, suffering rather the great heat of the sun, than the insupportable air in their cells. The equality of their fate made them all associate together, though not without some distinction, as often inequalities in man cannot be overcome. In all positions of human life there is a natural classification, and everywhere when a number of men are dependent on each other, they try to find their equals in manners and habits. All these mixed-up elements of the society, as they were found in the Luxembourg, arranged themselves methodically in separate groups, each of which evinced the particular character of their habits of life.

The doors of the prisons had just been opened, and their inmates were rushing from the corridors to inhale the bright morning air, being delighted to enjoy for hours so large a measure of liberty, which made them, with their little enmities and intrigues, their serious and merry flirtation, almost forget the gloomy fate to which they were doomed. There they came, old and young, some with wigs, others in ball-dresses; but the toilette of those who had been inmates of the Luxembourg for more than the last few days, was more a mockery than a testimony of its former splendour. The silk robes in which the ladies had been arrested were torn; not less so the clothes of the gentlemen. The finest linen was soiled, and the boots and shoes of many were in a sadly dilapidated state. Most of the prisoners had languished for a long time in prison, and their outside friends very seldom succeeded, through the kindness of Jeanne, the jailer's daughter, in replacing their worn-out clothes. But these deficiencies were overlooked, as they could not be denied. This count carried his head not the less proudly though his wig had suffered; that lady aristocrat received with no less noble amiability the homages of the gentlemen, though she could hardly cover her shoulders with a coarse handkerchief, while the bare toes of many of her cavaliers protruded through their boots; this former captain of the guards continued not the less his mockeries, though he wore an uniform which was hardly distinguishable by reason of its filthiness, and that marchioness kept up the court-etiquette of the "ancien régime," though she took at the common table her miserable repast from a wooden bowl with a wooden spoon.

Two beautiful young ladies, their toilette likewise in disorder, stepped out of the house, arm in arm like two sisters, cheerfully as though they were not in the yard of the prison but promenading in the adjoining park of the Luxembourg palace. The grace and self-possession of the one and the elf-like slenderness of the other seemed to complete a picture of artistic beauty.

To be continued.

A NICE DISTINCTION.—Private Maloy (goaded to madness by the goose-step) "Corpril O'Shaughtnessy, your honor! Av I was to call ye a dirty spalpeen o' misery, what would I git?" Corporal: "Faith, it'd be a round dozen." Private Maloy: "An' av I on'y thought it?" Corporal: "Devil a harm, so long as ye don't spake it." Private: "Then I on'y think it, Corpril."—*Judy.*

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