

brave the greatest dancer to show myself worthy your clemency."

"Well, chevalier, you have not long to wait an opportunity to show your zeal; the town is in an uproar, the people surround the inn; get rid of them, for they worry me with their noise."

The chevalier went out and returned in a quarter of an hour, saying—

"Your majesty's orders are obeyed. The crowd is dispersed."

"I shall not forget this service," said the Queen; "and I hope one day to be able to repay it, and give you a place at my court when I regain my proper rank; in the meantime I make you my chamberlain; and now I beg of you to order my supper, for I am—shall I confess it—uncommonly hungry."

"What! at such a moment, and after such cruel emotions! your majesty can feel hungry? What grandeur of soul!"

"The soul has very little to do in this affair. Order three covers, one for me, one for my faithful Suzanne, and one for yourself. We shall all sup together; all difference of ranks shall be forgotten in our misfortunes. We will not hold to the etiquette of Versailles at the hotel of the Lion d'Argent. Above all things take care and let the champagne be well iced."

The repast was delightful—the Queen put her companions at their ease by telling them that she wished to banish all ceremony, and pass the time as pleasantly as possible. Suzanne begged the chevalier to relate his history, which the young man did with much simplicity.

"I belong to this country," said the chevalier, "and was twenty years old last Easter Monday. My father died in the king's service, and my mother intended me for the church, for I had an elder brother—Achilles—who was destined to maintain the family honours:—unfortunately the poor fellow was rather quarrelsome, and was killed in a duel. I was then taken from my studies, launched into the world, where I quickly forgot all I had learned, and entered eagerly into the folly and dissipation usual with young men. I got into debt and difficulty, was obliged to leave my property and live at Lons-le-Saulnier, of which I was well weary. I had just resolved to go to Paris. When you appeared, then my former projects vanished; I thought of but one person, of whose rank I was ignorant—I need not add how I followed you on horseback, and became prisoner with yourselves."

The next morning, when the Queen awoke,

Suzanne told her that the ante-room was full of visitors who had been there from day-light, and wished to pay their homage.

"Really, Suzanne! but are they of sufficient rank for that?"

"Here is a list of their names."

The names were those of the highest nobility, who courageously came to render homage to persecuted royalty.

The Queen received them with a touching kindness of manner, and reproached them mildly for the imprudent step they had taken. "I thank you," she said, "and feel deeply the generous expression of your loyalty; but I must insist upon your not exposing yourselves further by remaining with me."

The Queen's remonstrances were useless.—Such was the zeal and enthusiasm of those who surrounded her, that they insisted on forming a court in the Lion d'Argent, and it was only by choosing four of the number that she could prevail on the rest to leave her.

Those four persons, Suzanne and the Chevalier de Maillettes, formed the society of the Queen, who excited their admiration by her grace, her constant serenity and gaiety, so remarkable under the circumstances in which she was placed.

Meanwhile the mayor and committee of public safety of Jougne sent each day to the national assembly of Jougne a bulletin with a detailed account of the manner in which the prisoner occupied her time.

"To-day," said the bulletin, "the Queen rose at ten o'clock; at twelve she dined, with a very good appetite, with the persons who composed her suite, after dinner her majesty wished to be alone; she paced her chamber in a state of agitation, pronouncing words which we could not catch the exact meaning of.—Eourthold, who is a man of information, pronounces them blank verses. At three o'clock the Queen demanded her attendants, and played a game of 'reversis' with the abbe de Blanzay, the president Du Ribois, and Mademoiselle Casterville—; at five o'clock her majesty stopped playing, and conversed in a undertone with the soi-disant Chevalier de Maillettes, when the conversation became general, and they talked gaily on frivolous subjects—at eight o'clock the citizen de Moiret read a lecture in a loud voice—at nine o'clock supper was served, which lasted 'till midnight—at twelve the Queen retired to her apartment."

This state of things lasted five days, when the Baron de Moiret who passed a portion of his time out of the hotel, took the Queen aside,