

the victim of it; and such I became. It seemed that all my forces had waited this signal to return to me. A rapid fire spread itself through my veins; and the impression of my malady was instantaneously effaced. I contemplated my victims with cold cruelty; and silently calculated torments for them. I counted them, and was delighted with the number which promised to glut my vengeance. I hastened, by my wishes, the moment in which I could practise their tortures; then wished to delay them still longer, that I might dwell on the pleasure of preparing them.

In the evening Urban called unto him. He made me sit beside him. "Your health," said he to me, "appears to be perfectly established; and I wish to celebrate your recovery." He took a glass, filled it, and presented it to me; then filled his own, and drank my health. "Drink, monster!" said I within myself. "To-morrow, at this hour will I drink upon thy corpse!"

Thirty years have passed away since this terrible moment; and my hand still trembles, while I trace the horrible images which hurried through my mind. I was about to drink when Ferdinand stayed my hand. My God! the gentle sound of his voice yet fills my ear. "And I!" said he, "do you not wish that I should drink your health?" "What do you do, Ferdinand?" cried I, with a terror, of which I was master: "Who knows but—the truth was springing from my mouth. Urban drew his Lieutenant by the sleeve. "Observe," said he, "Don't you think he will grow still stouter? What a charming acquisition!" This word alone drove back the discovery from my lips, and recalled all my former fury.

I rose, and descended into the gun room. Little notice was taken of my abrupt departure. The officer who had the watch, was indisposed. He requested Ferdinand to perform his duty; and I was alone until midnight. More at liberty, I abandoned myself without constraint, to the serpents with which I was devoured. I was angry with myself, that the idea of punishing Urban was not mine. What would I not have done, to have executed it alone: I thirsted for all the glory, and all the pleasure, but what do I! Let me rather draw a veil over those dreadful thoughts which agitated my soul.

Toward midnight, Ferdinand entered. "You do not sleep?" said he. "No," answered I, with a bitterness which I could not restrain. "Sleep is not for an oppressed man." "I feel it," said he with gentleness. But I have thought of you during the whole watch; and I am very glad you are awake, for I want to talk with you." He uttered these last words so impressively

that I thought myself discovered. A cold damp spread over my body. "Itanoko," said Ferdinand to me, "we shall soon arrive; since yesterday, every thing announces the neighbourhood of land. I am ignorant of my father's resolutions respecting you; but be they as they may, it is possible you and I may be separated. He may send me into Europe, or into some other part. He is my father, and I must obey him. While you are under my eyes, God is my witness, I will protect you at the peril of my life. But I may be absent; and you will then be without resource. Here are two thousand crowns in gold. They are all I possess; take them. I have a friend at Domingo, who is worthy of my confidence, and I will make you known to him. You shall deposit this gold with him; and if my father shall sell you to a stranger, while I am absent, my friend will re-purchase you. The sum is sufficient to procure your liberty.—Then take your departure; return to your own country, though I must never see you more. If my father should keep you himself, my duty to him will not permit this; but slavery may appear hard to you, and I may not be there to soften it. The desire of flight may seize upon you.—This would be truly a misfortune, the greatest perhaps that could happen to you: but the man who suffers, does not always reflect. This money will at least be of service to you. Without it, you would probably be retaken, and death would await you. At the worst, you will have more hope of escaping the laws with it. There are few obstacles, which this metal cannot remove. Take it; it is yours. Whatever may happen, let the name of Ferdinand ever be dear to you. Never forget it. It is the only recompense which I ask of you."

I cannot describe, what passed in my heart during this discourse. I fixed my eye on Ferdinand. "From whence comes this gold?" said I. "Of what moment is that?" answered he, with an astonished air. "Yet inform me," added I, "it is the last request, which I make you." I saw a noble blush on his forehead; and his eyes were cast down with shame. "You want it," said he; "be satisfied. My father is rich. Every year he gives me nearly this sum for my pleasures. I give them to the unfortunate; and you have a right to my friendship." "I accept it," answered I. At these words I rose. I dressed myself with precipitation. "Follow me!" said I to Ferdinand.—"Whither do you go?" "Follow!—I will show you."

I mount the stairs without seeming to touch them. I arrive at Urban's chamber