

that she filled the duties of that ~~sacred~~ character with exemplary attention, and altho' she did not at once leave off those pleasures in which she had hitherto seemed to indulge even to excess, they never interfered with the delights of maternity, and thus she went on for several years accounted for the happiest of human beings, and so she deserved to be. She has been reproached with having squandered immense sums for her pleasures, and that not satisfied with the ample provision allowed her, she constantly extorted from a fond husband additional gifts to bestow on her minions and favorites. It is true that she had a regular and ample monthly allowance, but it did hardly ever reach her, being always before hand appropriated to benevolent uses; and what nobler employ could she make of it? It was on that penury in which she was constantly known to be thereby reduced that the infamous transaction of the Diamond Necklace was planned. It is true that she had more than once made use of her influence over the King to extricate the Comte d'Artois from his pecuniary embarrassments; but as for herself or for any favorites nothing has been alleged and still less proved in support of the charge at the time when her accusers were all-powerful. Allegations of the nature of those exhibited against her ought not to be admitted on the bare assertion of revolutionary scribblers.

But will it be asked, who was the principle of that hatred that has dictated all the foul calumnies that have so profusely been circulated against that most injured Princess? Here it is. That infamous Egalité, for I cannot reconcile myself to the idea of giving to that Conger of vices, a title formerly borne by a Louis XII, that spurious scion ingrafted on the Royal trunk, if we believe that which he has had the baseness to proclaim himself, had dared to whisper the impure desires which he dignified under the name of Love; but offended virtue and majesty needed only the magic of a look to crush the reptile. He shrunk back and from that moment hatred and revenge took their seats in his bosom. Alone however he could not have succeeded in his endeavours to injure the character of the Queen: His own was generally held in such a contempt that his praise of her would have proved rather