

set on principles. Talleyrand spent his term of exile in North America and in Hamburg. The good burghers would say that he wished to learn of them what true freedom is; but I for my part don't believe that he sported the white cockade on the other side of the ocean. What could he expect to gain by it? The love of a charming *émigrée*, a lily from the stem of Montmorenci? The aspirations of the proscribed priest did not soar so high, although he did not shut himself out from matrimony. He had other sympathies: he loved the good housewife; and it was merely by the romance of accident that Madame Grandt was of East Indian extraction. To the dazzling beauty of this lady was joined a sprightly and unaffected simplicity. The poor ex-bishop suffered much through his tender penchant. However, he was quite indifferent to the ill-natured libel, and did not pine for the happiness which Chateaubriand found meanwhile in the forests amongst the Red Indians. He was in despair at his non-deliverance from the labyrinth of ennui, from which the thread of Mrs. Grandt's stocking knitting only occasionally rescued him. He longed for the lovely Paradise of France and Navarre: the guillotine was tired out: Talleyrand saw no longer any cause for fear. He wrote to the Convention in a tone of patriotic home-sickness; he wept like any Swiss; assured them that in the home of Franklin and Washington he had perfected himself more and more in republican virtues; and begged that the ban might be removed from his name. Citizen Talleyrand returned. Madame de Staël and the coterie rejoiced that the new opinions would now no longer want for the lustre of the old guillotined and expatriated nobility. Carnot despised him, but Talleyrand knew what part to play. He frequented the clubs and saloons, oscillating between republican opinions and royalist manners. He became popular; for the need of peace and respectability preponderated. The Directory was well pleased with him. Having in the unsettled weakness of the present been elevated to the post of Minister of Foreign Affairs, he began to think of a firm and enduring future. His eyes fell on young General Buonaparte, whose ambition was as fiery as his love, at that time, for Josephine Beauharnais. Talleyrand was the go-between for both, for he wedded France with ambition. He it was who prompted the Italian victories of the Egyptian *cavalcade*. He knew that France would be ruled by no monarch but glory, and won so many partisans for his favourite that the treasonable *Coup d'Etat* of the 18th Brumaire was looked upon as a righteous deed. Buonaparte never forgot Talleyrand's services, and could even forgive him, when in after times the man breathed nothing but Bourbon conspiracies, by allowing him to retain his foreign influence. A sort of enthusiastic sentimentalism, which is so characteristic of the