

HISTORICAL FACTS
IN THE LIVES OF
COUNT PULASKI
AND
BARON DE LOVZINSKI

— BY —
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BRIG. GEN. CASIMIR PULASKI

The following sketch is printed herewith by permission of Hon. Andrew J. Hickey, Representative in Congress from Indiana, and is a record of the services of this distinguished soldier in the the American Revolution, as given in a report before the House of Representatives Committee on the Library, February 20, 1928:

In these days when many of our citizens are wont to forget the admirable services of those great patriots who helped to win our independence and capitalize the alleged shortcomings of those patriots for their own benefit, it is indeed fitting that we should provide for some official observance of their memory.

Brigadier Casimer Pulaski contributed substantially to the winning of our independence and gave his life for the cause. He has been commemorated by the Congress in the form of an equestrian statue which stands between Thirteenth and Fourteenth Streets on historic Pennsylvania Avenue in the National Capital. Now, by the provisions of this resolution, we can observe officially the sesquicentennial anniversary of his death, which was caused by wounds received in line of duty during the siege of Savannah.

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In order that your memories may be refreshed concerning the contribution of General Pulaski to the American cause, I want to recite a few details of his remarkable career and some of the contributions he made to help win our independence.

Pulaski was born in Podolia, Poland, on March 4, 1748. He became interested in military affairs before he reached his majority, and served in the guard of Duke Charles of Courland before he reached the age of 20. In 1768 he joined his father, Joseph Pulaski, in Poland as one of the eight original associates of the confederation of Barr. He and his father pledged their time and fortunes and lives to the accomplishing of the redemption of Poland. He carried on

a partisan warfare after his father's death, and in 1769 raised a revolt in Lithuania. He finally forced the Russians to withdraw from the fortified monastery of Czenstochova to which he had been driven and took an active part in forcing them across the Vistula.

Subsequent unfortunate events caused Pulaski to leave his native land. He went to Turkey, but when the Sultan refused to aid him, he removed to Paris in 1775. It was in the French capital that he made the acquaintance of Benjamin Franklin. After his talks with Franklin he became interested in the American struggle for independence and came to this country in March, 1777. He immediately joined General Washington's staff in Philadelphia. In the battle of Brandywine, in company with Green, Wayne, Sullivan, and La Fayette, he struck his first blow in behalf of the American cause. His great service in this engagement was to defeat the attempt of the enemy to cut off the line of retreat. He executed his task so successfully and promptly that, upon the recommendation of Washington, he was commissioned as brigadier general by Congress and assigned to command the Cavalry. General Washington, in his letter to Congress recommending Pulaski for this place, said:

"This gentleman has been, like us, engaged in defending the liberty and independence of his country, and has sacrificed his fortune to his zeal for these objects. He derives from hence a title to our respect that ought to operate in his favor as far as the good of the service will permit."

Pulaski later saved the Army from

a surprise at Warren Tavern, near Philadelphia, and took part in the battle of Germantown. In the winter of 1777-78 he participated in the operations of General Anthony Wayne and helped defeat a division of British troops at Haddonfield, N. J. Subsequently, he was assigned to special duty at Valley Forge.

Congress, upon General Pulaski's suggestion and upon the recommendation of General Washington, authorized the formation of a corps of lancers and light infantry to be commanded by Pulaski. This corps, which was recruited mostly in Baltimore, later became famous under the name of Pulaski's Legion.

When he was stationed at Minisink, N. J., during the following winter, under a petty command which he did not like, he expressed himself as wishing to return to Europe, but Washington persuaded him to remain. On May 8, 1779, he entered Charleston, S. C., and three days lat-

er, May 11, the city was invested by 900 British troops from General Prevost's army. Pulaski's assault was unsuccessful, but he held the city until the arrival of reinforcements on May 13.

In the siege of Savannah, which resulted in his death, he rendered distinguished service. In the assault of October 8 he commanded the entire cavalry, both French and American. During the battle he received a wound in his right thigh which proved fatal. He was taken from the battle field after the conflict to the brig Wasp for transfer to Charleston. Head winds delayed the ship for several days, and Pulaski died as the ship was leaving the river. He was buried at sea, but funeral services were held afterwards in the city of Charleston.

The citizens of Savannah erected a monument to the memory of Count Pulaski. It was completed on January 6, 1855.

A LIFE OF PATRIOTISM AND DRAMA.

Among the many heroes of the earlier days of our Nation's history, there is perhaps none whose life carries a more interesting or dramatic story than that of Count Pulaski, who died in the service of our country, following wounds received at the siege of Savannah, October 8, 1779. In the brief sketch above, are related some of the many deeds of valor performed by this heroic soldier.

Count Pulaski was born in Poland, in 1748. Thruout the turbulent period of that country's history in the next half century following, he was a conspicuous character—fighting for the principles of freedom with a zeal that caused all of Europe to wonder at the many deeds performed in his ill-fated service.

Following the death of Stanislaus Lescinski, King of Poland, in 1764, invasions into that country by foreign armies led this devoted patriot to raise armies in an endeavor to force them out of the country. The war following last thruout a period of some eight or nine years, during which Pulaski fought with a fierceness possibly unparalleled in the history of the world. During the latter period of his campaigns his army suffered such heavy losses, and growing weaker and weaker—Pulaski, driven to desparation, yet undaunted in his ardor to save his country, endeavored to strengthen his army by abducting Stanislaus Poniatowsk (M. de P.), who had been crowned King of Poland

at the death of Stanislaus Lescinski, to bring him to his camp in the hope that the presence of the King in his army might awaken in the hearts of his countrymen a new patriotism, and that they would then flock to his army in sufficient numbers that he could carry out his purpose and overcome his enemies. This attempt failed. Count Pulaski was condemned for this act as a traitor; a price was placed over his head; his possessions were seized, and at the same time his army having been routed in an overwhelming defeat, he was forced to flee from his beloved country.

With his daughter, and her husband, Baron Lovzinski, who had also served in his campaigns, he fled into Russia, where, after a series of hardship, his daughter died. In disguise Pulaski and Lovzinski finally found their way into Turkey, where Pulaski again tried to arouse the people of that country to fight against his enemies, and failing, eventually came to America, where they engaged themselves to the service of the American army in the Revolutionary War.

All war records of the life of Baron Lovzinski seem to have been completely lost, as well as most of the facts concerning the life of Pulaski.

In the hope that I may be of service to those interested in the lives of these two important figures of history, I have prepared the following biography from material that has fallen into my hands from the library of my father, the late Walter Thompson, of Plattsburg, Missouri.

That the incidents related herein are authentic, I have no doubt. The story related is a most tragic narrative of human life.

The date of birth of Count Pulaski, given on the preceding page, 1748, is the date generally given by historians, and was used in this introductory article because of that fact. But the old records from which the information in this book was taken present facts that Count Pulaski must have been a middle aged man at the time of his entry into the American Revolutionary forces. He had a married daughter and granddaughter, hence he must have been born some years prior to 1748. It has been suggested that the historians of the early American period may have confused the date of birth of Count Pulaski with that of Baron de Lovzinski, who must have been born about that date.

This booklet is written in the form of an autobiography of Baron de Lovzinski.



HISTORICAL FACTS IN THE LIVES OF COUNT PULASKI AND BARON DE LOVZINSKI

History presents a frightful example of the instability of fortune. It is indeed very flattering, but it is also sometimes very dangerous, to have an ancient title to sustain, and a large estate to preserve. The sole descendant of an illustrious family whose origin is lost in the darkness of remote ages, I have a right to aspire to, and to occupy the first employments in the republic which gave me birth, and yet, I behold myself condemned to languish in a foreign country, amidst an indolent and inglorious obscurity.

The name of Lovzinski is honorably mentioned in the annals of Poland, and that name is about to perish with myself! I know that an austere philosophy either rejects or despises vain titles and corrupting riches; and perhaps I should console myself if I had lost only these; but, I weep for an adored spouse, I search after a beloved daughter, and I shall never more revisit my native land. What courage is capable of opposing griefs like mine?

My father, the Baron de Lovzinski, still more distinguished by his virtues than his rank, enjoyed that consideration at court, which the favour of the prince always confers, and which personal merit sometimes obtains. He bestowed all the attention of a tender parent on the education of my two sisters; and in regard to mine, he occupied himself with the zeal of a man of family, jealous of the honour of his house, of which I was the sole hope, and with the activity of a good citizen, who desires nothing so ardently as to leave to the state a successor worthy of him.

While I was pursuing my studies at Warsaw, the young P—— distinguished himself among the rest of my companions by his amiable qualities. To the charms of a person at once noble and engaging, he joined

the graces of cultivated understanding. The uncommon address which he displayed among us young warriors, that rare modesty with which he seemed desirous to conceal his own merit from himself, on purpose to exalt the abilities of his less fortunate rivals who were generally vanquished by him in all our exercises; the urbanity of his manners, and the sweetness of his disposition, fixed the attention, commanded the esteem, and rendered him the darling of that illustrious band of young nobility, who partook of our studies and our pleasures.

To say that it was the resemblance of our characters, and the sympathy of our dispositions, that occasioned my attachment to M. de P——, would be to pay myself too flattering a compliment; however that may be, we both lived together in the most intimate familiarity.

How happy, but how fleeting is that time of life, when one is unacquainted with ambition, which sacrifices everything to the desire of fortune and the glory that follows in her train, and with love, the supreme power of which absorbs and concentrates all our faculties upon one sole object! that age of innocent pleasure and of confident credulity when the heart, as yet a novice, follows the impulse of youthful sensibility, and bestows itself unreservedly, upon the object of disinterested affection; Then, surely, friendship is not a vain name!

The confident of all the secrets of M. de P——, I myself undertook nothing without first intrusting him with my designs; his counsels regulated my conduct, mine determined his resolution; our youth had no pleasures which were not shared, no misfortunes which were not solaced by our mutual attachment.

With what chagrin did I not per-

ceive that fatal moment arrive, when my friend, obliged by the commands of a father to depart from Warsaw, prepared to take leave of me! We promised to preserve forever that lively affection which had contributed the chief happiness of our youth, and I rashly swore that the passions of a more advanced age should never alter it.

What an immense void did the absence of M. de P—— leave in my heart! At first it appeared that nothing could compensate for his loss; the tenderness of a father, the caresses of my sisters, affected me but feebly. I thought that no other method remained for me to dissipate the irksomeness of my situation, than to occupy my leisure moments with some useful pursuit. I therefore cultivated the French language, already esteemed throught all Europe; I read with delight those famous works, the eternal monuments of genius, which it had produced; and I wondered, that notwithstanding such an ungrateful idiom, so many celebrated poets, so many excellent philosophers and historians, justly immortalized, had been able to distinguish themselves by its means.

I also applied myself seriously to the study of geometry; I formed my mind in a particular manner to the pursuit of that noble profession which makes a hero at the expense of one hundred thousand unfortunates, and which men less human than valiant have called the grand art of war! Several years were employed in these pursuits, which are equally difficult and laborious; in short, they solely occupied my thoughts. M. de P——, who often wrote to me, no longer received any but short replies, and our correspondence began to languish by neglect when at length love finished the triumph over friendship.

My father had been for a long time intimately connected with Count Pulaski. Celebrated for the austerity of his manners, famous on account of the inflexibility of his virtues, which were truly republican, Pulaski, at

once a great captain and a brave soldier, had on more than one occasion signalized his fiery courage, and his ardent patriotism.

Instructed in ancient literature, he had been taught by history the great lessons of a noble disinterestedness, an immoveable constancy, an absolute devotion to glory. Like those heroes to whom idolatrous but grateful Rome elevated altars, Pulaski would have sacrificed all property to the prosperity of his country; he would have spilled the last drop of his blood for its defense; he would even have immolated his only, his beloved daughter, Lodoiska.

Lodoiska! how beautiful! how lovely! her dear name is always upon my lips, her adored resemblance will live forever in my heart!

From the first moment that I first saw this fair maid, I lived only for her; I abandoned my studies; friendship was entirely forgotten. I consecrated all my moments to Lodoiska. My father and hers could not be long ignorant of my attachment; they did not chide me for it; they must have approved it then? This idea appeared to me to be so well founded, that I delivered myself up without suspicion, to the sweet passion that enchanted me; and I took my measures so well, that I beheld Lodoiska almost daily, either at home, or in company with my sisters, who loved her tenderly;—two sweet years flew away in this manner.

At length Pulaski took me one day aside, and addressed me thus: "Your father and myself have formed great hopes of you, which your conduct has hitherto justified; I have long beheld you employing your youth in studies equally useful and honorable. To-day—(He here perceived that I was about to interrupt him) What would you say? Do you think to tell me anything I am unacquainted with? Do you think that I have occasion to be hourly witness of your transports, to learn how much my Lodoiska merits to be beloved? Is it because I know as well as you the value of my daugh-

ter, that you never shall obtain but by meriting her? Young man, learn that it is not sufficient that your foibles should be legitimate, to be excusable; those of a good citizen ought to be turned entirely to the profit of his country; love, even love itself, like the basest of the passions, is either despicable or dangerous, if it does not offer to generous hearts an additional motive to excite them towards honor.

"Hear me: Our monarch for a long time in a sickly habit of body, seems at length to approach towards his end. His life, becomes every day more precarious, has awakened the ambition of our neighbors. They doubtless prepare to sow divisions among us; and they think that by over-awing our suffrages, they will be enabled to force upon us a king of their own choosing. Foreign troops have already dared to appear on the frontiers of Poland; already two thousand Polish gentlemen have assembled, on purpose to punish their audacious insolence. Go and join yourself with those brave youths; go, and at the end of the campaign return covered with the blood of our enemies, and show to Pulaski a son-in-law worthy of him!"

I did not hesitate a single moment; my father approved of my resolutions but being unable to consent without pain to my precipitate departure, he pressed me for a long time against his bosom while a tender solicitude was depicted in all his looks; his adieus seemed to be inauspicious; the trouble that agitated his heart seized upon my own; our tears were mingled on his venerable cheeks. Pulaski, who was present at this moving scene, stoically reproached us for what he termed a weakness. Dry up your tears, said he to me, or preserve them for Lodoiska; it belongs only to childish lovers who separate themselves from each other for five or six months, to weep in this manner; He instructed his daughter in my presence, both of my departure, and of the motives which determined me to

it. Lodoiska grew pale, sighed, looked at her father with a face suffused with blushes, and then assured me in a trembling voice, that her vows should be offered up for my safe return, and that her happiness depended on the safety of Lovzinski.

Encouraged in this manner, what dangers had I to fear? I departed accordingly, but in the course of that campaign, there happened nothing worthy of narration; the enemy, equally careful with ourselves to avoid any action which might produce an open war between the two nations, contented themselves with fatiguing us my means of frequent marches; we, on the other hand, bounded our views to following and observing them; and they only seemed to oppose themselves to us, in those parts where the open country afforded them an opportunity of making good their retreat.

At the end of the campaign they prepared to retire on purpose to take up their winter quarters in their own country; and our little army composed almost wholly of gentlemen, separated soon after.

I returned to Warsaw full of joy and impatience; I thought that Love and Hymen were about to bestow Lodoiska on me. Alas, I no longer had a father. I learned, on entering the capital, that Lovzinski died of an apoplexy on the night before my arrival. Thus I was deprived of even the sad consolation of receiving the last sighs of the most tender of parents; I could only offer up my sorrows at his tomb, which I bathed with my tears!

— "It is not", says Pulaski to me who was but little moved with my profound sorrow—"it is not by barren tears that you can do honour to a father such as thine. Poland in him regrets a citizen— a hero, who would have been of immense service during the critical moment which now approaches. Worn out with a tedious malady, our monarch has not a fortnight to live, and on the choice of his successor depends the happiness or

misery of our fellow-citizens.

"Of all the rights which the death of your father transmits to you, the most noble is undoubtedly that of assisting at the Diet, in which you are to represent him; it is there, where he will revive in you; it is there, where you ought to exhibit a courage infinitely more difficult to be sustained than that which consists only in braving death in the field of battle!

"The valor of a soldier is nothing more than a common virtue; but they are not ordinary men who on awful emergencies, preserving a tranquil courage and displaying an active penetration, discover the projects of the powerful who cabal, disconcert the enterprises of the intriguing, and confront the designs of the factious; who, always firm, incorruptible, and just give not their suffrages but to those whom they think most worthy of them; whom neither gold nor promise can seduce, whom prayers cannot bend, whom menaces cannot terrify.

"These were the virtues which distinguished your father; this is the precious inheritance which you ought to be desirous of sustaining. The day on which the states assemble for the election of a king, will be the epoch on which the pretensions of many of our fellow-citizens, more occupied with their private interests than jealous of the prosperity of their country, will be manifested, as well as the pernicious designs of the neighboring powers, whose cruel policy it is to destroy our strength by dividing it.

"I am deceived, my friend, if the fatal moment is not fast approaching which will forever fix the destinies of our country—its enemies have conspired its ruin; they have secretly prepared for a revolution, but they shall not consummate their purposes while my arm can sustain a sword! May that God, who is the protector of the republic prevent all the horrors of a civil war! But that extremity, however frightful it appears, may perhaps become necessary; I flatter

myself that it will be but a short, although perhaps a violent crisis, after which the regenerated state will assume its ancient splendor.

"You shall second my efforts, Lovzinski; the feeble interests of love ought to disappear before more sacred claims. I cannot present my daughter to you during this awful moment of suspense, when our common country is in danger; but I promise to you, that the first days of peace shall be marked by your union with Lodoiska."

Pulaski did not speak in vain. I felt that I had now more essential duties to fulfill than those of love; but the cares with which my mind was occupied, were hardly able to alleviate my grief. I will even avow to you without blushing, that the sorrow of my sisters, their tender friendship, and the caresses more reserved but no less pleasing of my mistress, made a stronger impression on my heart than the patriotic counsels of Pulaski. I beheld Lodoiska tenderly affected with my irreparable loss, and as much afflicted as myself at the cruel events which forced us to defer our union; my chagrin, by being thus divided with that lovely woman seemed insensibly to diminish.

In the mean time the king died, and the Diet was convoked. On the day that it was to open, at the very instant when I was about to repair to the assembly, a stranger presented himself and desired to speak to me in private. As soon as my attendants were retired he entered my apartment with precipitation, threw himself into my arms and tenderly embraced me. It was M. de P——! Ten years which had elapsed since our separation had not so much changed his features as to prevent me from recognizing him, and testifying to my joy and surprise at his unexpected return.

"You will be more astonished," he said to me, "when you know the case. I have arrived this instant, and am about to repair to the meeting of the Diet; would it be presuming too much

on your friendship to reckon on your vote?"

"On my vote! and for whom?"

"For myself," he continued with vivacity; "it is not now time to recount to you the happy revolution that has taken place in my fortune, and which at present permits me to entertain such exalted hopes; it is sufficient to observe that my ambition is at least justified by a majority of suffrages, and that it is in vain that two feeble rivals would attempt to dispute with me the crown which I pretend.

"*Lovzinski*," he added, embracing me again, "if you were not my friend and I esteemed you less, perhaps I should endeavor to dazzle you by means of promises; perhaps I should recount to you the favors which I intend to heap upon you, the honorable distinctions that are reserved for you, and the noble and glorious career that is about to offer itself to your ambition; but I have not any need of seducing, and I only wish to persuade you.

"I behold it with grief, and you know it yourself, that for several years past our Poland, become enfeebled, owes its safety to nothing else than the distrust of the three great powers* which surround it, and the desire to enrich themselves with our spoils, may in one moment re-unite our divided enemies.

"Let us prevent, if we can, this inauspicious triumvirate from dismembering the republic. Undoubtedly, in more fortunate time, our ancestors were able to maintain the freedom of their elections; it is necessary, however, that we should yield to that necessity, which is become inevitable.

"Russia will necessarily protect a king whom she herself has elevated; in receiving the sovereign of her choice, you will defeat the views of that triple alliance which will render our perdition certain, and we shall acquire a powerful ally, who will oppose herself with success to the two enemies that remain to us.

* (Russia, Prussia, and the House of Austria.)

"These are the reasons which have determined my conduct; I do not abandon part of our rights, but to preserve the most precious of them. I wish not to ascend a fickle throne, but with the intention, by the means of a sage policy, to give it stability; I consent not to alter the constitution of the commonwealth, but to preserve the kingdom entire."

We repaired to the Diet together; I voted for M. de P—. He in effect obtained the majority of the suffrages; but Pulaski, Zuremba, and some others declared themselves in favor of Prince C—. Nothing was decided amidst the tumult of this first meeting.

When the assembly broke up M. de P— invited me to accompany him to the place, which his secret emissaries had already prepared for him in the capital.*

We shut ourselves up together during several hours, and renewed the promises of a friendship that should endure forever. I then too informed M. de P— of my intimate connection with Pulaski, and of my love for Lodoiska. He repaid my confidence with more important communications; he informed me of the events which had led to his approaching grandeur; he explained to me his secret designs; and I left him, convinced that he was less occupied with a desire of his own elevation than with that of restoring Poland to its ancient prosperity.

Possessed with these ideas, I flew towards my future father-in-law, burning with the desire of adding him to the party of my friend. Pulaski was walking at a great pace up and down the chamber of his daughter, who appeared equally agitated with himself.

"Behold," said he to Lodoiska, the moment that he saw me enter, "behold that man whom I esteem and whom

* (The Diet for the election of the kings of Poland is held half a league from Warsaw, in the open air, on the other side of the Visuda, near the village of Vola.

you love! He has sacrificed us both to his blind friendship." I was desirous to reply but he went on—"You have been connected from your childhood with M. de P——. A powerful faction is about to place him on the throne; you know you are acquainted with his designs; this very morning at the Diet you voted for him; you have deceived me—but do you think that you shall deceive me with impunity?"

I besought him to hear me, and he constrained himself so far as to preserve a stern silence: then I informed him that M. de P——, whom I had for a long time neglected, had agreeably surprised me by his unexpected return.

Lodoiska appeared charmed to hear me commence my justification. "You shall not deceive me in the same manner as if I were a credulous woman," said Pulaski—"But it signifies not—proceed."

I then recounted to him the particulars of the short conversations that I had with M. de P—— before I repaired to the assembly of the states.

"And these are your projects!" exclaimed he. "M. de P—— sees no other remedy for the misfortune of his fellow citizens than their slavery! He proposes this, one of the name of Lovzinski, approves of it; and they despise me so much as to tempt me to enter into this infamous plot! Shall I behold the Russians commanding in our provinces in the name of a Pole?"

"The Russians," said I with fury, "the Russians reign in my country!" On this Pulaski, advancing towards me with the greatest impetuosity, cried out, "Perfidious youth! you have deceived me, and you would betray the state! Leave my house this very moment, or know that I shall order you to be dragged out of it!"

I frankly acknowledged that an affront so cruel, and so little merited, disarmed me of my prudence: in the first transports of my fury, I placed my hand upon my sword; and quicker than lightning Pulaski brandished

his in the air.

His daughter, his distracted daughter, rushed forward and precipitated herself upon me, crying out: "Lovzinski, what are you about to do?" On hearing the accents of a voice so dear to me, I recalled my wandering reason; but I perceived that a single instant was about forever to bereave me of my Lodoiska! She had left me to throw herself into the arms of her father. He, cruel man, beheld my grief, and strove to augment it: "Go, traitor!" said he, "be gone—you behold Lodoiska for the last time!"

I returned home in a state of desperation. The odious names which Pulaski had lavished on me, returned unceasingly to my reflection. The interests of Poland, and those of M. de P——, appeared to be so intimately connected together, that I did not perceive in what manner I could betray my fellow-citizens by serving my friend. In the mean time I was obliged either to abandon him, or renounce Lodoiska forever. What was I to resolve? what part should I take? I passed the whole night in a state of most cruel uncertainty: and when the day appeared, I went towards Pulaski's house, without yet having come to any determination.

The only domestic who remained there informed me, that his lord had departed at the beginning of the night, with his daughter, after having first dismissed all his people. Think of my despair on hearing this news. I asked to what part Pulaski had retired. But my question was in vain; he informed me that he was certainly ignorant of the place of his destination.

"All I can tell you," said he, "is that you had scarce gone away yesterday evening, when he heard a great noise in the apartment of his daughter. Still terrified at the scene which had taken place between you, I approached the door, and listened. Lodoiska wept: her furious father, overwhelmed her with injuries, bestowed his malediction upon her, and I myself heard him exclaim: "To love

a traitor is to be one! Ungrateful wretch, I shall conduct you to a place of safety where you shall henceforth be at a distance from seduction."

Could I any longer doubt the extent of my misery? I instantly called for Boleslas, one of the most faithful of my domestics: I ordered him to place trusty spies about the palace of Pulaski, who should bring an account of everything that passed there; and commanded that if the count returned to the capital before me, he should follow him wherever he went. Having given these instructions, and not yet despairing of still finding the family at one of their feats in the neighborhood of the metropolis, I myself set out in pursuit of my mistress.

I accordingly searched through all the domains of Pulaski, and asked concerning Lodoiska of all the passengers whom I met, but without success. After having spent eight days in fruitless enquiry, I resolved to return to Warsaw, and I was not a little astonished, on my arrival, to find a Russian army encamped on the banks of the Vistula, almost under the very walls of that city.

It was night when I entered the capital: the palaces of the grandees were all illuminated, an immense multitude filled the streets; I heard the songs of joy; I beheld wine flowing in rivulets in the public squares; everything announced to me that Poland had a king.

Boleslas, who expected me with impatience, informed me that Pulaski had returned alone on the second day after my departure; and that he had not stirred from his own palace but to repair to the Diet, where in spite of his efforts, the ascendancy of Russia became every day more manifest. "During the last assembly held this very morning," added he, M. de P—— united almost all the suffrages in his favor, and was about to be declared king, when Pulaski pronounced the fatal Veto: at that instant twenty sabres were brandished in the air. The fierce palatine of——,

whom the count had insulted in the former assembly, was the first to rush forward, and gave him a terrible wound on the head. Zarembo and some others drew to the defense of their friend: but all their efforts would have been unable to have saved him, if M. de P—— had not ranged himself on their side, exclaiming at the same time, that he would sacrifice with his own hand, the first person who dared to approach him. On this the assailants retired. In the mean time Pulaski, fainting from the loss of blood, was carried off the field in a state of insensibility. Zarembo departed also, swearing to avenge his friend. Having thus become master of the deliberations, the numerous partizans of M. de P—— instantly proclaimed his sovereign.

"Pulaski, who had been carried to his palace, was soon restored to life; and the surgeons who attended him, declared that his wounds, altho dangerous, were not mortal. In that state, although languishing under the most cruel torments, contrary to the advice of his friends, he ordered himself to be lifted into his carriage, and before noon he left Warsaw, accompanied by Mazeppa and a few malecontents."

It was scarcely possible to have announced worse news to me. My friend was upon the throne, but my reconciliation with Pulaski appeared henceforth impossible, and in all appearance Lodoiska was lost forever. I knew her father so well as to be under apprehensions lest he should proceed to extremities with his daughter. I was affrightened at the present, I durst not look forward towards the future; and my heart was so devoured with chagrin that I did not go out, even to felicitate the new king.

One of my people, whom Boleslas dispatched after Pulaski, returned at the end of the fourth day. He had followed him fifteen leagues from the capital; when about that distance Zarembo, who perceived a stranger at a little distance from the carriage began to conceive suspicions. As

they proceeded, four of his followers, who had concealed themselves behind the ruins of an old house, surprised my courier, and conducted him to Pulaski. He, with a pistol in his hand, forced him to acknowledge to whom he belonged. "I shall send you back to Lovzinski" said the fierce republican, "on purpose to announce from me, that he shall not escape my just vengeance." At these words they blindfolded my servant, who could not tell where they carried him. At the end of four and twenty hours they returned, and tying a handkerchief once more about his eyes, they put him into a carriage, which having stopped at length after a journey of several hours, he was ordered to descend. Scarce had he put his foot upon the ground but his guards departed at a full gallop; on which he removed the bandage, and found himself on precisely the same spot as that on which he had been first arrested.

This intelligence filled me with uneasiness; the menaces of Pulaski terrified me, much less on my own account than on Lodoiska's, who remained in his power: In the midst of his fury he might sacrifice her life! I resolved therefore to expose myself to every species of danger, on purpose to discover the retreat of the father, and the prison of his only child.

On the succeeding day, after informing my sisters of my design, I left the capital; Boleslas alone accompanied me, and I passed for his brother. We wandered over all Poland, and I then perceived that the fears of Pulaski were but too well justified by the event. Under pretense of obliging the inhabitants to take the oath of fidelity to the new king, the Russians scattered about in the provinces, desolated the country, and committed a multitude of exactions in the cities.

After having spent three months in vain enquiries, despairing of being able to find Lodoiska, touched with the most lively grief for the fate of my country, and weeping at one and

the same time for her misfortunes and my own, I was about to return to Warsaw, to inform the new king of the excesses committed by those foreigners in his states, when an adventure that at first seemed to be very inauspicious, forced me to a very different resolution.

The Turks having declared war against Russia, the Tartars of Budziac and the Crimea made frequent incursions into Volhynia, where I then was. Four of those robbers attacked us one afternoon as we were leaving a wood near Ostropol. I had imprudently neglected to load my pistols, but I made use of my sabre with so much address and good luck that in a short time two of them fell covered with wounds. Boleslas encountered the third: the fourth attacked me with great fury; he gave me a slight cut upon the leg, but received a terrible stroke in return, that dismounted him from his horse and felled him to the ground. Boleslas at the same moment perceived himself disencumbered from his enemy who at the noise made by his comrade's fall took to flight. He whom I had just vanquished then addressed me in very bad Polish and said, "A brave man like you ought to be generous. I beg my life of you—instead of putting me to death, succor me, relieve me, bind up my wounds and assist me to arise."

He demanded quarter with an air so noble, that I did not hesitate for a moment. I accordingly descended from my horse, and Boleslas and myself having helped him to arise, dressed his wounds. "You behave well," said the Tartar to me; "you behave well!" As he spoke we beheld a cloud of dust and in a moment after, more than three hundred Tartars rushed upon us full speed. "Be not afraid, dread nothing", said he whom I had spared, "I am the chief of this troop." Accordingly, by means of a sign he accorded his followers who were on the point of massacring us; and speaking to them in their own language, which I was unable to com-

prehend, they instantly opened their ranks on purpose to permit us to pass.

"Brave man," exclaimed their captain, addressing himself to me once more, "had I not reason to say you behaved well? You left me my life, and I now save yours; it is sometimes right to spare an enemy, and even a robber! Hear me, my friend: in attacking you I followed my profession, and you did your duty in conquering me. I pardon you. You have already pardoned me; let us therefore embrace." He then added: "The day is wasting and I would not advise you to travel in these cantons during the present night. My people are about to repair each to his respective post, and I cannot answer for their discretion. You perceive a castle on a rising ground towards the right: it belongs to a certain Pole of the name of Dourlinski, for whom we have a high esteem, because he is very rich. Go, demand an asylum from him; tell him that you have wounded Titsican, and that Titsican pursues you. He is acquainted with my name: I have already made him pass many an uneasy night. As to the rest, you may rely on it, that while you remain with him, his castle shall be sacred; but be careful not to come forth on any account before the end of three days, and on any account to remain longer than eight—Adieu!"

With unfeigned pleasure we took leave of Titsican and his companions. The advice of the Tartar was a command; I therefore said to Boleslas "Let us immediately make for the castle that he has pointed out to us, I am well acquainted with this same Dourlinski by name; Pulaski has sometimes spoken to me concerning him, he perhaps is not ignorant of the place to which the Count has retired, and it is not impossible but that with a little address we may be able to draw the secret from him. I shall say at all events that we are sent by Pulaski, and this recommendation will be of more service to us

than that of Titsican; in the mean time, Boleslas, do not forget that I am your brother, and be sure not to discover me.

We soon arrived at the ditch of the castle; the servants of Dourlinski demanded who we were; I answered that we were come from Pulaski and wished to speak to their Lord, and that we had been attacked by robbers who were still in pursuit of us. The draw-bridge was accordingly let down and having entered we were informed that at present we could not see Dourlinski, but that on the next day, at ten o'clock, he would give us audience. They then demanded our arms, which we delivered up without any difficulty, and Boleslas soon after took an opportunity of looking at my wound which was found to be but superficial.

In a short time a frugal repast was served up for us in the kitchen. We were afterwards conducted to a lower chamber, where two beds were prepared for us. The domestics then left us without any light, and immediately locked the door of the apartment.

I could not close my eyes during the whole of the night. Titsican had given me but a slight wound, but that which my heart had received was very deep! At day break I became impatient in my prison, and wished to open the shutters, but they were nailed up. I attacked them however so vigorously that the fastenings gave way, and I beheld a very fine park. The window being low, I cleared it at a leap and in a single instant found myself in the garden of the Polish chieftan.

After having walked about for a few minutes I sat down on a stone bench, which was placed at the foot of a tower, whose ancient architecture I had been some time considering. I remained for a few seconds enveloped in reflection, when a tile fell at my feet. I thought it had dropped from the roof of this old building; and to avoid the effects of a similar accident, I went and placed

myself at the other end of the seat. A few moments later a second tile fell by my side. The circumstance appeared surprising: I arose with some degree of quietude, and attentively examined the tower. I perceived at about twenty-five or thirty feet from the ground, a narrow opening. On this I picked up the tiles which had been thrown at me, and on the first I discovered the following words, written with a bit of plaister: "LOVZINSKI, it is you! Do you still live!"

And on the second, these:
"Deliver me, save Lodoiska."

It is impossible to conceive how many different sentiments occupied my mind at one and the same time; my astonishment, my joy, my grief, my embarrassment, cannot be expressed. I examined once more the prison of Lodoiska, and plotted in my own mind how I could procure her liberty. She at length threw down another tile, and I read as follows:

"At midnight bring me paper, ink, and pens; and to-morrow an hour after sun-rise, come and receive a letter. Begone—"

Having returned towards my chamber, I called to Boleslas, who assisted me in re-entering thru the window. I then informed my faithful servant of the unexpected accident that had put an end to my wanderings and redoubled my inquietude.

How could I penetrate into this tower? How could we procure arms? By what means were we to deliver Lodoiska from captivity? How could we carry her off under the eye of Dourlinski in the midst of his people from a fortified castle? And supposing that so many obstacles were not unsurmountable, could I attempt such an enterprise during the short delay prescribed by Titsican?

Did not the Tartar enjoin me to stay with Dourlinski three days, but not to remain longer than eight?

Would it not be to expose ourselves to the attacks of the enemy, to leave this castle before the third, or after

the expiration of the eighth day? Should I release my dear Lodoiska from a prison, on purpose to deliver her into the hands of robbers to be forever separated from her either by slavery or death? This would be a horrible idea!

But wherefore was she confined in such a frightful prison? The letter which she had promised would doubtless instruct me. It was therefore necessary to procure paper, pen and ink. I accordingly charged Boleslas with this employment, and began to prepare myself for acting the delicate part of an emissary of Pulaski in the presence of Dourlinski.

It was broad day light when they came to set us at liberty and informed us that Dourlinski was at leisure and wished to see us. We accordingly presented ourselves before him with great confidence; and we were introduced to a man of about fifty years of age, whose reception was blunt and whose manners were repulsive. He demanded who we were. "My brother and myself," replied I, "belong to Count Pulaski. My master has entrusted me with a secret commission to you. My brother accompanies me on another account. Before I explain I must be in private, for I am charged not to speak but to you alone."

"It is very well", replied Dourlinski; "your brother may retire, and you also," addressing himself to his servants; "Begone! As to him (pointing to a person who was his confidant) he must remain, and you may speak any thing before him."

"Pulaski has sent me",—"I see very well that he has sent you", says the Palatine, interrupting me—"to demand of you—" "What?"—"news of his daughter." News of his daughter! Did Pulaski say so?" — "Yes, my lord, he said that his daughter was here." — I perceived that Dourlinski instantly grew pale; he then looked towards his confidant and surveyed me for some time in silence.

"You astonish me" rejoins he at length, "In confiding a secret of this

importance to you, it necessarily follows that your master must have been very imprudent."

No more than you, my lord, for have you not also a confident: Grandees would be much to be pitied if they could not rely upon any of their domestics. Pulaski has charged me to inform you that Lovzinski has already searched thru a great part of Poland, and that he will undoubtedly visit these cantons."

"If he dares to come here," replied he with great vivacity, "I will provide a lodging for him, which he shall inhabit for some time. Do you know this Lovzinski?"

"I have seen him at my master's house in Warsaw."

"They say he is handsome?"

"He is well made, and about my size."

"His person?"—"is prepossessing; it is—"

"He is a wretch," he added, interrupting me in a great passion—"Oh that he were but to fall into my hands!"

"My lord, they say he is brave—"

"He! I will lay any wager, any sum of money that he is only calculated to seduce women! O that he would but fall into my hands!" Then assuming a less ferocious tone, he continued thus, "It is a long time since Pulaski wrote to me—where is he at present?"

"My lord I have precise orders not to answer that question: all that I dare to say, is, that he has the strongest reasons for neither discovering the place of his retreat, nor writing to any person, and that he will soon come and explain them to you in person."

Dourlinski appeared exceedingly astonished at this information; I could discover some symptoms of fear in his countenance. At length, looking at his confident, who seemed equally embarrassed with himself, he proceeded: "You say that Pulaski will come here soon?" "Yes, my lord, in about a fortnight, or a little later." On this he again turned to his attendant; but

in a short time, affecting as much calmness as he had before discovered embarrassment; "Return to your master," added he; "I am sorry to have nothing but bad news to communicate to him—tell him that Lodoiska is no longer here." I myself became surprised in my turn at this information.

"What, my lord, Lodoiska—"

"Is not longer here, I tell you!—To oblige Pulaski, whom I esteem, I undertook, although with great repugnance, the task of confining his daughter in my castle: nobody but myself and he (pointing to his confident) knew that she was here. It is about a month since we went, as useful, to carry her provisions for the day, but there was nobody in the apartment. I am ignorant how it happened but what I know well is that she has escaped, for I have heard nothing of her since. She must undoubtedly have gone to join Lovzinski at Warsaw, if perchance the Tartars have not intercepted her in her journey."

My astonishment on this became extreme. How could I reconcile that which I had seen in the garden with that which Dourlinski now told me? There was some mystery in this business, which I became exceedingly impatient to be acquainted with. I was however, extremely careful not to exhibit any appearance of doubt. "My lord, said I, this is bad news for my master!"

"Undoubtedly, but it is not my fault."

"My lord, I have a favor to ask of you."

"Let me hear it."

"The Tartars are ravaging the neighborhood of your castle—they attacked us, but we escaped as it were by a miracle. Will you permit my brother and myself to remain here only for the space of two days?"

"For two days only I give my consent,"

"Where do they lodge?" says he to his attendant. "In an apartment below the ground," was the reply.

"Which overlooks my gardens?" rejoins Dourlinski, interrupting him with great agitation.

"The shutters are well fastened" added the other.

"No matter—you must put them elsewhere." These words made me tremble.

"It is not impossible but" continued the confident, and then whispered the rest of the sentence in his ear.

"Right," said the Baron; "and let it be done instantly." Then, addressing himself to me, "Know that your brother and you must depart the day after tomorrow: before you go, you shall see me again, and I will give you a letter for Pulaski."

I then went to rejoin Boleslas in the kitchen, where he was at breakfast, who, soon after presented me with a little bottle of ink, several pens, and some sheets of paper, which he had procured without difficulty. I panted with desire to write to Lodoiska; and the only difficulty that now remained, was to find a commodious place where I might not be discovered by the curiosity of Dourlinski's people.

They had already informed Boleslas that we could not again be admitted into the apartment where we had spent the preceding night, until the time should arrive when we were to retire to rest. I soon, however, thought myself of a stratagem which succeeded to admiration.

The servants were drinking with my pretended brother, and politely invited me to help them empty a few flasks.

I swallowed with a good grace several glasses of bad wine in succession and in a few minutes my legs seemed to totter, my tongue faltered. I related a hundred pleasant and improbable tales to the joyous company; in a word, I acted the drunken man so well, that Boleslas himself became a dupe to my scheme, and actually trembled lest, in a moment when I seemed disposed to communicate everything, my secret should escape.

"Gentlemen," said he, to the aston-

ished Bacchanals, "my brother's head is not very strong today: it is perhaps the consequence of his wound; let us not therefore either speak to or drink any more with him; for I am afraid of his health, and indeed you would oblige me exceedingly if you would assist me to carry him to his bed,"—"To his own bed?" said one of them, "that is impossible! But I will most willingly lend him my chamber." They accordingly laid hold of me, and conveyed me into a garret, of which a bed, a table, and a chair formed the sole moveables. Having shut me up in this paltry apartment, they instantly left me. This was all I wanted, for the moment that I was alone, I immediately sat down to write a long letter to Lodoiska.

I began by fully justifying myself from the crimes of which I had been accused by Pulaski: I then recounted everything that had occurred since the first moment of our separation, until that when I had entered the castle of Dourlinski: I detailed the particulars of my conversation with the Baron: I concluded by assuring her of the most tender and most respectful passion, and swore to her, that the moment she gave me the necessary information concerning her situation, I would expose myself to every danger, in order to finish her horrid captivity.

As soon as my letter was sealed, I delivered myself up to a variety of reflections, which threw me into a strange perplexity. Was it actually Lodoiska who had thrown those tiles into the garden? Would Pulaski have had the injustice to punish his daughter for an attachment which he himself had approved? Would he have had the inhumanity to plunge her into a frightful prison? And even if the hatred he had sworn to me had blinded him so much, how was it possible that Dourlinski would thus have condescended to have become the minister of his vengeance?

But, on the other hand, for these three last long months, on purpose to disguise myself, I had only worn tat-

tered clothes: the fatigues of a tedious journey, and my chagrin, had altered me greatly; and who but a mistress could have been able to discover Lovzinski in the gardens of Dourlinski? Besides, had I not seen the name of Lodoiska traced upon the tile? Had not Dourlinski himself acknowledged that Lodoiska had been a prisoner with him? It is true, he had added that she had made her escape: but was not this incredible? And wherefore that hatred which Dourlinski had avowed against me, without knowing my person? What occasioned that look of inquietude, when it was told him that the emissaries of Pulaski occupied a chamber that overlooked his garden? And why, above all, that look of terror, when I announced to him the arrival of my pretended master?

All these circumstances were well calculated to throw me into the greatest agitation. I ruminated over this frightful and mysterious adventure, which it was impossible for me to explain. For two hours I unceasingly put new questions to myself, to which I was exceedingly embarrassed to make any reply; when at length Boleslas came to see if I had recovered from my debauch. I had but little difficulty in convincing him that my inebriety was mere affectation; after which we went down together to the kitchen, where we spent the rest of the day. What a night! none in my whole life ever appeared so long, not even that which followed.

At length the attendants conducted us to our chamber, where they shut us up as on the former occasion, without any light: it was yet two tedious hours until midnight. At the first stroke of the clock, we gently opened the shutters and the casement. I then prepared to jump into the garden; but my embarrassment was equal to my despair when I found myself obstructed by means of iron bars. "Behold," said I to Boleslas, "what the cursed confidant whispered in his ear! behold what his odious master approved, when he said, let it be done

instantly!, behold what they have been working at during the day! it was on this account that they prevented us from entering the chamber."

"My lord, they have stood on the outside," replied Boleslas: "for they have not perceived that the shutter has been forced."

"Alas! whether they have perceived it or not," exclaimed I with violence, "what does it signify? This fatal grating destroys all my hopes: it insures the slavery of Lodoiska—it insures my death."

"Yes, without a doubt it insures thy death!" repeated a person at the same time opening the door, and immediately after Dourlinski, preceded by several armed men, and followed by others carrying flambeaux, entered our prison sabre in hand. "Traitor" exclaimed he, while addressing himself to me with a look in which fury was visibly depicted, "I have heard all—I know who you are—your servant has discovered your name. Tremble! Of all the enemies of Lovzinski, I am the most implacable!"

"Search them, he continued, turning to his attendants. They accordingly rushed in upon me; and as I was without arms, I made a useless resistance. They accordingly robbed me of my papers, and of the letter I had just written to Lodoiska. Dourlinski exhibited a thousand signs of impatience while reading it, and was scarce able to contain himself.

"Lovzinski," he said to me, endeavoring to smother his rage, "I already deserve all your hatred; I shall soon merit it still more; in the mean time you must remain with your worthy confidant in this chamber, to which you are so partial."

After uttering these words, he left me; and having double-locked the door, he placed a sentinel on the outside, and another in the garden, opposite to the window.

Figure to yourself the horrible situation into which Boleslas and myself were now plunged. My misfortunes were at their height; but those

of Lodoiska affected me more than my own! How great must be her uneasiness! She expected Lovzinski, and Lovzinski abandons her! But no, —Lodoiska knows me too well; she can never suspect me of such base perfidy. Lodoiska! she will judge of her lover by herself; she will think Lovzinski partakes her lot, since he does not succor her—Alas! the very certainty of my misfortunes will augment her own!

On the next day, they gave us provisions thru the grating of our window; and by the quality of the viands which they furnished us with Boleslas augured the most sinister events. Being however less unhappy than myself, he supported his fate much more courageously. He offered me my share of the mean repast which he was about to make; I would not eat—he pressed me; but it was in vain, for existence was become an insupportable burden to me.

“Ah! live!” said he at length, shedding a torrent of tears; live, and if not for Boleslas, let it be for Lodoiska!” These words made the most lively impression on my mind; they even re-animating my courage: and hope having once more re-entered my heart, I embraced my faithful servant. “O my friend”, I exclaimed at the same time with transport, “my true friend; I have been the occasion of thy ruin, and yet my misfortunes affect thee more than thine own! Yes, Boleslas! yes! I will live for Lodoiska! I will live for thee; if just heaven shall restore me to my fortune and rank, you shall see that your master is not ungrateful!” We then embraced once more.

Ah! how much do misfortunes connect men together! how sweet it is when one suffers, to hear another unfortunate address a word of consolation to him!

We had groaned in this prison for no less than twelve days, when several ruffians came to drag me forth on purpose to conduct me to Dourlinski. Boleslas wished to follow, but they repulsed him with violence:

However they permitted me to speak to him for a single moment. I then drew from a private pocket a ring which I had worn for ten years, and said to Boleslas: “This ring was given to me by M. de P. when we were at college together at Warsaw: take it, my friend, and preserve it for my sake. If Dourlinski this day consummates his treason by my assassination, and if he should at length permit you to leave this castle, go find your king, recall to his memory our ancient attachment, recount my misfortunes to him: he will recompense you, and succor Lodoiska. Adieu, my friend!”

After this I was conducted to the apartment of Dourlinski. As soon as the door opened, I perceived a lady in a chair, who had just fainted away. I approached her—it was Lodoiska! Heavens! how much did I find her altered! but she was still handsome! “Barbarian!” I exclaimed, addressing myself to Dourlinski; and at the voice of her lover Lodoiska recovered her senses.

“Ah, my dear Lovzinski,” said she, looking wistfully at me, “do you know what this infamous wretch has proposed? do you know at what price he has offered me your liberty?”

“Yes,” cried the furious chieftain, “yes, I am determined upon it: you see that he is in my power; and if in three days I do not obtain my wishes he shall be no more!” I endeavored to throw myself on my knees at the feet of Lodoiska; but my guards prevented me: “I behold you again, and all my ills are forgotten, Lodoiska—death has now no longer anything terrifying in its aspect.”

“Wretch,” added I, looking sternly at Dourlinski, “know that Pulaski will avenge his daughter! know that the king will avenge his friend.”

“Let him be carried away!” was the only reply made by the ferocious Palatine.

“Ah!” exclaimed Lodoiska, “my love has been your ruin!” I was about to answer but the attendants dragged me out, and reconducted me to prison.

Boleslas received me with inexpress-

sible transports of joy; he avowed to me that he thought me lost forever, and I recounted to him that my death was but deferred. The scene of which I had been a witness confirmed all my suspicions; it was evident that Pulaski was ignorant of the unworthy treatment which his daughter experienced; it was also evident that Dourlinski, old, amorous and jealous, was determined, at any rate, to satisfy his passions.

In the mean time, two of the days allowed by Dourlinski for the determination of Lodoiska, had already expired; we were now in the midst of the night which preceded the fatal third; I could not sleep, and I was walking hastily about my prison. All at once I heard the cry of "To arms, to arms!" The most frightful howlings prevailed on the outside, and a great commotion took place within the castle. The sentinel placed at our window left his post. Boleslas and I were able to distinguish the voice of Dourlinski, calling and encouraging his followers; and we soon distinctly heard the clashing of swords, the cries of the wounded, and the groans of the dying. The noise, which at first was very great, seemed at length to die away. It recommenced soon after; it redoubled; and at length we heard a shout of "Victory!"

To this frightful tumult, a still more frightful silence ensued. In a short time a low crackling sound was heard to approach us; the air seemed to hiss with violence, the night became less dark and the trees in the garden assumed a red and warm tint; we hastened to the window—the flames were devouring the castle of Dourlinski and were approaching the chamber in which we were confined from all sides; and to overwhelm me with new horror, the most piercing shrieks were uttered from the tower in which I knew Lodoiska was imprisoned!

The fire became every moment more violent, was about to communicate to the chamber in which we were shut up, and the flames already

began to curl around the base of the tower in which Lodoiska was immured!

Lodoiska uttered the most dreadful groans, to which I answered by cries of fury. Boleslas rushed from one part of the prison to another, like a mad man; he sent forth the most terrible howlings; he attempted to burst open the door with his hands and feet. As for myself, I remained at the window, and shook amidst my transports of fury, those massive iron bars which I was unable to bend.

All of a sudden, the domestics who had lately mounted the battlements descended with precipitation and opened the gates: we heard the voice of Dourlinski himself begging for quarter. The victors instantly precipitated themselves amidst the flames, and being at length attracted by our cries forced open the door of our prison with their hatchets. By their dress and their arms I knew them to be Tartars—their chief arrived—it was Titsican!

"Ah! ah!" exclaimed he, "it is my brave friend!"

I instantly threw myself on his neck: "Titsican!—Lodoiska!—a lady!—the fairest of women—in that tower!—about to be burnt alive!"

These were the incoherent expressions by which I made my feelings known.

The Tartar instantly gave the word of command to his soldiers—they fly to the tower, and I along with them—Boleslas following. They burst open the doors and near to an old pillar we discovered a narrow winding staircase, filled with smoke.

The Tartars, affrighted at the danger held back—I prepared to ascend.

"Alas! what are you about?" exclaimed Boleslas.

"To live or die with Lodoiska!"

"And I will either live or die with my master!" was the reply of my generous servant.

I rushed on—he followed me! At the risk of suffocation we ascended about forty steps, and by the light of the flames discovered Lodoiska in a

corner of her prison; who feebly uttered: "Who is it that approaches me?"

"It is Lovzinski! it is your lover!"

Joy instantly gave her new strength she rose and came into my arms: we carried her away, descending a few steps, but volumes of smoke filled all the stair case and we were forced to re-ascend with precipitation. At that very instant too, a part of the tower gave way! Boleslas uttered a dreadful shriek, and Lodoiska fell into a swoon.

That which was on the point of destroying saved us. The flames, formerly smothered, began to extend with greater rapidity; but the smoke was dissipated. Laden with our precious burden, Boleslas and I descended in haste—I do not exaggerate—the walls were all on fire! At length we arrived at the gate of the tower! Titsicna, trembling for our safety was expecting us there: "Brave men!" exclaimed he, on seeing us appear again. I placed Lodoiska at his feet, and fell down lifeless by her side!

I remained nearly an hour in this situation. They trembled for my life, and Boleslas wept aloud. I again recovered my senses at hearing the voice of Lodoiska, who returning to herself was calling me her deliverer. The appearance of everything was altered; the tower was entirely ruins. The Tartars, however, had stopped the progress of the flames—they had destroyed one part of the castle on purpose to save the remainder; in fine, we had been carried into a large saloon, where we were surrounded by Titsican and some of his soldiers. Others of them were occupied in pillaging and in bringing away the gold, silver, jewels, plate, and all the precious effects which the flames had spared.

Near to us Dourlinski, loaded with fetters, and uttering repeated groans, beheld this heap of riches, of which he was about to be despoiled. Rage, terror, despair, all the passions which can tear the heart of a villain suffering under punishment, were vis-

ibly depicted in his wild and wandering looks. He struck the earth with fury, dashed his clenched hands against his forehead, and uttering the most horrible blasphemies, he reproached heaven for its just vengeance.

In the mean time, my lovely mistress held my hand clasped in hers "Alas" said she at length, with tears in her eyes, "Alas! you have saved my life, and your own is still in danger! Nay, even if we escape death, slavery awaits us!"

"No, no, Lodoiska, be comforted Titsican is not my enemy; Titsican will put a period to our misfortunes"

"Undoubtedly, if I am able," exclaimed the Tartar, interrupting me "you are in the right, brave man! (he added) I see that you are not dead, and I am happy: you always say and do good things; and you have there (turning to Boleslas) a friend who seconds you admirably."

On this I embraced Boleslas: "Yes Titsican, yes, I have a friend who shall always be dear to me—!"

The Tartar again interrupted me: "What were not you both confined in an apartment below the ground, and was not this lady in a tower? What was the reason of that? I will lay any wager, he continued with a smile, that you have taken this female from that old wretch, (pointing to Dourlinski) and you are in the right; for he is a dotard, and she is beautiful! Come—inform me of everything."

I then discovered my own name to Titsican, that of Lodoiska's father, and every particular that had occurred to me until that moment. It belongs to Lodoiska, I observed, in conclusion, to make us acquainted with what she has been obliged to suffer from the infamous Dourlinski, ever since she has been in his castle!"

"You know", replied Lodoiska, "that my father obliged me to leave Warsaw, on the day that the Diet was opened. He first conducted me to the territories of the Palatine of —, a only twenty leagues distance from

the capital, to which he returned, on purpose to assist at the meeting of the states.

"On that very day when M. de P. was proclaimed king, Pulaski took me from the castle of the Palatine and conducted me here, thinking that I should be better concealed. He charged Dourlinski to guard me with extraordinary strictness; and, above all things to take especial care to prevent Lovzinski from discovering the place of my retreat. He then left me, as he informed me, on purpose to assemble and encourage the good citizens to defend his country, and to punish traitors. Alas! these important avocations have made him forget his daughter, for I have never seen him since.

"A few days after his departure, I began to perceive that the visits of Dourlinski had become more frequent than usual; in a short time, he hardly ever quitted the apartment assigned me for a prison. He deprived me under some trifling pretext, of the only female attendant whom my father had left me; and to prevent any person, as he said (from knowing that I was in his castle, he himself brought me the food necessary for my subsistence, and passed whole days along with me. You cannot conceive my dear Lovzinski, how much I suffered from the continual presence of a man who was odious to me, and whose infamous designs I was suspicious of, he even dared to explain himself to me one day; but I assured him that my hate should always be the price of his tenderness, and that his unworthy conduct had drawn upon him my sovereign contempt.

"He answered me coldly, that in time I should accustom myself to see him, and to suffer his assiduities; nay, he did not in the least alter his usual conduct, for he entered my chamber in the morning, and never retired until night. Separated from all I loved, I had not even the feeble consolation of being able to enjoy the sweet recollection of my past happiness. A witness to my misfortunes,

Dourlinski took pleasure in augmenting them.

" 'Pulaski,' said he to me, 'commands a body of Polish troops; Lovzinski betraying his country, which he does not love, and a woman concerning whom he is indifferent, serves in the Russian army, where he will be cut off during some bloody engagement; besides, if he survives, it is evident that nothing can ever reconcile your father to him.'

"A few days after, he came on purpose to announce to me, that Pulaski, during the night, had attacked the Russians in their camp; and that, amidst the confusion that ensued, my lover had fallen by the hand of my father. The cruel Palatine even made me read a narrative of this event, drawn up with every appearance of the truth, in a kind of public gazette, which doubtless he had procured to be printed expressly for the purpose; besides, on perceiving the barbarous joy which he affected on this occasion, I thought the news but too true.

"Pitiless tyrant! cried I, you enjoy my tears and my despair; but cease to persecute me, or you will soon see that the daughter of Pulaski is herself able to avenge her own injuries!

"One evening that he had left me sooner than usual, after I had retired to bed, I heard my door open very softly. By the light of a lamp, which I kept always burning, I beheld my tyrant advancing toward my bed. As there was no crime of which I did not believe him to be capable, I had forseen this event; and I had even taken measures to render it unsuccessful. I accordingly armed myself with a long sharp knife which I had the precaution to conceal beneath my pillow; I overwhelmed the wretch with the reproaches which he so justly merited; and I vowed, if he dared to advance, that I would poignard him with my own hand.

He retired, with surprise and affright visibly delineated on his countenance: 'I am tired,' said he as he went out, 'with experiencing nothing but scorn; and if I were not afraid of

being overheard, your should soon perceive what a woman's arm could effect against mine! But I know a way of vanquishing your pride! By and by you will think yourself but too happy in being able to purchase your pardon by the most humiliating submissions.'

"He now withdrew. A few moments after, his confident entered with a pistol in his hand. I must however do him the justice to say that he wept while he announced to me the orders of his lord.

"'Dress yourself, madam; you must instantly follow me!' This was all he was able to say to me.

"He then conducted me to that very tower, where, without you, I should this morning have perished; he shut me up in that horrible prison; it was there that I had languished for more than a month, without fire, without the light of heaven, and almost without clothes; with bread and water for my food; for my bed a few trusses of straw: this was the deplorable state to which the only daughter of a grandee of Poland was reduced!

"You shudder, brave stranger, and yet believe me, when I assure you, that I do not recount to you any more than a small part of my sufferings. One thing, however, rendered my misery less insupportable: I no longer beheld my tyrant. While he expected with tranquility that I should solicit my pardon, I passed whole days and nights in calling on the name of my father, and in bewailing my lover! * * * * O Lovzinski! with what astonishment was I seized; with what joy was my soul penetrated, on that day when I once more beheld you in the gardens of Dourlinski! * * *

Titsican was listening to the story of our misfortunes, with which he appeared to be deeply affected, when one of his sentinels approached and sounded an alarm. He immediately left us in great haste, on purpose to run to the drawbridge. We heard a great tumult, and began to presage some inauspicious event.

While we remained plunged in con-

sternation — "Lovzinski, Lodoiska, cowardly and perfidious pair!" exclaimed Dourlinski, unable to contain his joy, "—you have hoped to be able to elude my vengeance, and escape my chastisement. Tremble! you are once more about to fall into my hands. At the noise of my captivity and misfortunes, the neighboring nobility are undoubtedly assembled, and have now come to succor me."

"They can only revenge you, villain!" cried Boleslas, interrupting him in the midst of his threats, and seizing at the same time an iron bar with which he prepared to knock him down. I, however, instantly interposed and prevented him from executing this act of justice.

Titsican returned in a few minutes "It is only a false alarm," said he to us; "it is nothing more than a small detachment which I dispatched yesterday, on purpose to scour the country—they had orders to rejoin me here; and they have brought me some prisoners; everything is quiet and the neighborhood does not appear to be in the least commotion."

While Titsican yet spoke to me, a number of unfortunates, whose luckless fate had delivered them into the hands of the enemy, were dragged before him. We first beheld five, who being unbound, walked by the side of their conquerors with a downcast and melancholy aspect. The Tartars told us that one of their companions had been overcome with great difficulty, and that was the reason why he was bound hand and foot!

The sixth now appeared: "O Heavens! it is my father!" exclaimed Lodoiska, running at the same time towards him. I, too, threw myself at the feet of Pulaski. "Are you Pulaski?" said the Tartar chieftain, "'tis well; the event is lucky! Believe me, my friend, it is no more than an hour since I first heard of you. I know however, that you are proud and hot-headed, but no matter, I esteem you; you possess both courage and abilities; your daughter is beautiful and does not want for understanding; Lov-

zinski is brave—braver than myself as I have already experienced. Attend to what I am about to say—”

Pulaski, motionless with astonishment, scarcely heard the sound of the Tartar's voice; and struck at the same time with the strange spectacle that offered itself to his view, he began to conceive the most horrible suspicions.

He repulsed my caresses with the most significant disgust: “Wretch!” exclaimed he at length, “you have betrayed your country, a woman who loved you, a man who prided himself in calling you his son-in-law; it was only wanting to fill up the measure of your crimes, that you should league with robbers!”

“With robbers!” cried Titsican — “with robbers indeed, if it so please you to call us; but you yourself must acknowledge that description of people to be good for something; for without me, perhaps, your daughter, by tomorrow's sun would no longer have been a maiden! Be not alarmed!” said he, addressing himself to me: “but I know that he is proud, and I therefore am not angry.”

We had by this time placed Pulaski in a chair; his daughter and myself bathed his manacles with our tears; but he still continued to frown and to overwhelm me with reproaches.

“What can you wish for?” cried the Tartar, once more addressing his captive: “I tell you that Lovzinski is a brave man, whom I intend to see married, and as for your Dourlinski, he is a rogue, whom I am about to order to be hanged.

“I repeat to you once more, that you alone are more hot-headed than us three put together. But hear me, and let us finish this business, for it is necessary that I should depart. You belong to me by the most incontestible right, that of the sword. But if you promise me, upon your honor that you will be sincerely reconciled to Lovzinski, and give your daughter to him for a wife, I will restore you to your liberty.”

“He who can brave death,” replied the haughty Pulaski, “can support slavery. My daughter shall never be the wife of a traitor.”

“Do you love better that she should be a Tartar's mistress? If you do not promise to give her, within the space of eight days, to this brave man, I myself shall espouse her this very night! When I am weary of you and of her, I will sell you to the Turks. Your daughter is handsome enough to find admittance into the haram of a bashaw; and you yourself may perhaps superintend the kitchen of some janissary.”

“My life is in your hands; do with it whatsoever you please. If Pulaski falls beneath the sword of a Tartar he will be lamented, and even his enemies will agree that he merits a more glorious destiny; but if he were to consent: No! no! I rather chose—I prefer death!”

“I do not desire your death! I wish only that Lovzinski should espouse Lodoiska—What! Shall my prisoner give the law to me? By my sabre!—this dog of a Christian—but I am in the wrong he is furious, and is assuredly deprived of his reason.”

I now beheld the Tartar's eyes sparkle with fury, and therefore recalled to his memory the promise he had made me, that he would not give way to his passion.

“Undoubtedly! but this man wears out the patience of a favorite of our prophet! I am but a robber!—Yet Pulaski, I repeat it to you again, that it is my command that Lovzinski espouse your daughter. By my sabre, he has fairly gained her; but for him she had been burned last night.”

“But for him?”

“Yes! Behold those ruins; there stood a tower in that place; it was on fire, and no person dared to ascend it; he however, mounted the staircase attended by Boleslas—and they saved your daughter.”

“Was my daughter in that tower?”

“Yes! that hoary villain had confined her there: that hoary villain,

who attempted to violate her!—Some of you must relate the whole to him; but make haste, as it is necessary he should decide instantly; I have business elsewhere, for I do not intend that your militia* shall surprise me here; it is otherwise in the plains; there I should laugh at them.”

While Titsican ordered the rich booty which he had taken, to be stowed in little covered wagons, Lodoiska informed her father of the crimes of Dourlinski, and mingled the recital of our affection so artfully with the history of her misfortune that nature and gratitude at one and the same time began to besiege the heart of Pulaski.

Affected in the most lively manner with the misfortunes of his daughter, and sensible of the important services which I had rendered her he embraced Lodoiska, and at length beholding me without resentment, he seemed to wait impatiently for an opportunity to be reconciled to me.

“O Pulaski!” I exclaimed, “you whom Heaven hath left me, on purpose to console me for the loss of the best of fathers; you for whom I have an equal friendship and veneration; why hast thou condemned thy children unheard? Why hast thou supposed a man who adores thy daughter guilty of the most horrible treason?”

“When my vows were offered up in favor of that prince who now fills the throne, I swear to you Pulaski, by her whom I love so tenderly, that I looked upon his elevation to be an event highly auspicious to the happiness, the safety, and the prosperity of my country.

“The misfortunes which my youth did not foresee, thy experience had anticipated; but because I have been wanting in prudence, ought you to have accused me of perfidy? Ought you to have reproached me for loving my friend? Can you now look upon

* (The troops stationed on purpose to watch over the safety of the frontiers of Padolia and Volbna, and preserve them from the incursions of the Tartars, are called Quartuaires.)

it as a crime, that I still give him my esteem? For the three last months I have beheld the misfortunes of my country in the same point of view as yourself; like you, I have mourned over them; but I am sure that the king is still ignorant of their extent, and I shall go to Warsaw on purpose to inform him of all that I have seen.”

Pulaski here interrupted me: “It is not there that you ought to repair; you tell me that M. de P. is not informed of the wrong done to his native country, and I believe you: but whether he is acquainted with, or whether he is entirely ignorant of them is now but of little consequence. Insolent foreigners, cantoned thruout the provinces, strive to maintain themselves in the republic, even against the king, whom they have caused to be elected. It is no longer in the power of an impotent or a malcontent king, to chase the Russians from my country!

“Let us trust only to ourselves, Lovzinski; and let us either avenge our country or die in her defense. I have assembled 4000 noble Poles in the palatine of Lublin, who wait for the return of their general, to march against the Russians—follow me to my camp—on this condition I am your friend and my daughter shall be your wife!”

“Pulaski, I am ready to obey you: I swear to follow your fortunes, and to participate in your dangers. And think not it is Lodoiska alone who has exacted from me this oath; I swear by her, and before you, that the enemies of the republic have always been, and shall never cease to be mine; I swear that I will spill the very last drop of my blood to chase those foreigners out of Poland who reign there in the name of its king!”

“Embrace me, Lovzinski! I now recognize you; I adopt you for my son-in-law—my children, all our misfortunes are at an end!”

Pulaski desired me to unite my hand to Lodoiska's, in token of our union; and we were embracing the

brave palatine at the very moment that Titsican reentered.

"Good! good!" exclaims the chieftain: this is what I wished; I am fond of marriages, Father, I shall instantly order you to be unbound.

"By my sabre!" adds the Tartar, while his followers were cutting the cords with which the hands and feet of Pulaski were tied; "by my sabre! I shall do a noble action, but it will cost me a world of wealth! Two grandees of Poland! a beautiful maiden! They would have produced me a ransom!"

"Titsican, such a thought is not worthy of you!" said Pulaski interrupting him.

"No! no!" rejoins the Tartar, "it is a mere reflection only—it is one of those ideas which a robber can not prevent. My brave and unfortunate friends, I demand nothing from you—nay more, you shall not retire on foot; I have some charming horses with which I intend to present you—and for this lady, if you please, I will give you a litter on which I myself have been carried for these last ten or twelve days. This young man here had given me such a wound, that I could no longer sit on horseback. The litter is indeed a bad one, clumsily constructed, by means of branches of trees; but I have nothing except that or a little covered wagon to offer you—choose which ever of them you please."

In the mean time, Dourlinski, who had not as yet uttered a single word, remained with his eyes fixed on the ground, with an air of consternation spread over his countenance.

"Unworthy friend", said Pulaski, to him, "how could you so cruelly abuse the confidence I reposed in you? Were you not afraid to expose yourself to my resentment? What demon blinded you!"

"Love!" replied Dourlinski, "an outrageous love! You, perhaps do not comprehend to what excess the passions may hurry on a man, violent and jealous by nature. This frightful example, however, ought to teach

you that a daughter so charming as yours is a treasure which one ought not to entrust to any person.

"Pulaski, I have indeed merited your hatred: but I am still worthy of your pity. I have rendered myself exceedingly culpable; but you behold me cruelly punished. I lose, in one single day, my rank, my riches, my honor, my liberty! more than all this, I lose thy daughter!"

"O, Lodoiska! lovely maiden, whom I have so much outraged, will you deign to forget my persecutions, your danger and your grief? Will you deign to grant me a generous pardon?"

"Ah! if there are no crimes which a sincere repentance cannot expiate Lodoiska, I am no longer criminal. I would I were able at the price of all my blood, to redeem those tears which I have occasioned you to shed. Amidst the horrible state to which Dourlinski is about to be reduced, shall he not be permitted to carry with him the consoling recollection of having heard you tell him that he is no longer odious to you?"

"Too amiable, and until this moment, too unfortunate maiden, however great my wrongs may have been in regard to you, I have it in my power to repair them all by means of a single word—advance—approach me—I have a secret which can only be entrusted to your private ear: it is exceedingly important that it should be revealed to you!"

Lodoiska without the least distrust left my side and advanced toward him without suspicion.

At that very moment I beheld a poniard glittering in the hand of Dourlinski! I precipitated myself upon him. It was too late, for I could only parry the second thrust; and the lovely Lodoiska wounded immediately above the left breast, had already fallen senseless at the feet of Titsican.

Pulaski, furious at the horrid treason, drew his sabre quick as lightning, on purpose to avenge his daughter's fate.

"No! no!" exclaimed the Tartar at

the same time withholding his arm, "you are about to make this wretch suffer too gentle a death!"

"It is well," said the infamous assassin, addressing himself to me, and at the same time contemplating his victim with a cruel joy. "Lovzinski you appeared but now eager to be united with Lodoiska; why do you not follow her? Go, my too happy rival, go and accompany your mistress to the tomb! Let them prepare my punishment; it will appear pleasant to me; I leave you to torments no less cruel, and infinitely longer than mine."

Dourlinski was not allowed to utter another sentence, for the Tartars rushed in upon him and threw him into the midst of the burning ruins.

* * * * *
What a night! how many different cares, how many opposite sentiments agitated my unhappy mind during its continuance! How many times did I experience the successive emotions of fear, hope, grief and joy! After so many dangers and inquietudes, Lodoiska at length presented to me by her father, and I was intoxicated with the dear hope of possessing her: a barbarian had but now assassinated her in my presence.

This was the most cruel and unfortunate moment of any during the whole course of my life! But my happiness eclipsed, as it were, in a single instant, was not long in shining forth with all its former splendor.

Amidst the Tartars belonging to Titsican was one somewhat conversant in surgery. We sent for him. On his arrival he examined the wound and assured us that it was but a slight one. The infamous Dourlinski, constrained by his chains and blinded by his despair, had happily been prevented from giving any other than an ill directed blow.

As soon as Titsican was informed that the life of Lodoiska was not in any danger, he prepared to take leave of us.

"I leave you," said he, "the five domestics who accompanied Pulaski;

provisions for several days, arms, six excellent horses, two covered wagons and the people belonging to Dourlinski in chains. Their base lord is no more: Adieu! the day is about to appear; do not leave this place until tomorrow; I shall then visit the other cantons. Adieu, brave Poles, tell to your countrymen that Titsican is not so bad as he has been represented to them, and that he sometimes restores with one hand what he takes with another. Adieu!"

At these words he lifted his hand to his head, and having saluted us gracefully after the manner of his country, he gave the signal to depart; the Tartars mounted their fleet coursers in an instant, passed along the drawbridge, and made for the neighboring plain at a full gallop.

They had been gone scarcely two hours, when several of the neighboring nobility, supported by a detachment of militia came on purpose to invest the castle of Dourlinski.

Pulaski himself went out to receive them: He related the particulars of all that had occurred; and some, gained over by his eloquence promised to follow us to the palatinate of Lublin.

They asked for only two days to prepare everything necessary for the expedition, and actually came and rejoined us at the appointed time, to the number of sixty.

Lodoiska having assured us that she was now able to undergo the fatigues of a journey, we placed her in a commodious carriage, which we had luckily been able to procure for this purpose.

After having restored Dourlinski's people to liberty, we abandoned the two covered waggons to them, in which Titsican, with his usual generosity had left part of his immense booty: this we divided among them in equal proportions.

We arrived, without meeting with any accident at Polowisk, in the Palatinate of Lublin, this being the place which Pulaski had appointed for the general rendezvous. The news of his

return having gone abroad, a crowd of mal-contents in the space of less than a month, flocked to, and increased our little army to such a degree that we soon found it to amount to no less than 10,000 men.

Lodoiska, entirely cured of her wound, and perfectly recovered from her fatigues, had regained her usual spirits and appeared in possession of all her former beauty. Pulaski one day called me into his tent, and spoke as follows: "Three thousand Russians have appeared, as you well know, upon the heights above, and at no greater distance than half a league from us: take, in the course of the ensuing night, three thousand chosen men, and go and chase the enemy from the advantageous posts they now occupy. Recollect that on the success of a first attempt depends almost always that of the campaign; recollect that you are about to avenge your country's wrongs; recollect, too, my friend, that tomorrow I shall learn thy victory, and that tomorrow also thou shalt espouse Lodoiska!"

I began my march about ten o'clock. At midnight we surprised our enemies in their camp. Never was a defeat more complete: we killed seven hundred men; we took nine hundred prisoners; we seized all their cannon, the military chest and the ammunition.

At break of day Pulaski marched out to join me with the remainder of the troops: he brought Lodoiska with him: we were married in Pulaski's tent. All the camp resounded with songs of gladness: valor and beauty were celebrated in joyous epithalamiums: it seemed to be the festival of Venus and Mars; and it might be truly said, that every soldier appeared to be impressed with the same sentiments as myself, and that they all partook of my happiness.

After I had given up the first days of so dear a union, entirely to love, I began to think of recompensing the heroic fidelity of Boleslas. My father-in-law presented him with one of his castles, situated at some leagues

from the capital, and Lodoiska and myself added to this princely donation a considerable sum of ready money on purpose to enable him to lead an independent and tranquil life.

He first refused to leave us; but we commanded him to go and take possession of his castle, and live peaceably in that honorable retreat which his services had so amply merited. On the day of his departure I took him aside: "You must go in my name", said I, "and wait upon our monarch at Warsaw: inform him that I am united in the bonds of Hymen to the daughter of Pulaski; state to him that I am armed on purpose to chase out of his kingdom those foreigners who are ravaging it; and tell him in particular, that Lovzinski a foe to the Russians, is not the enemy of his king."

The recital of our operations during eight succeeding years of bloody war would be uninteresting. Sometimes vanquished; much oftener victorious; equally great in the midst of a defeat, as formidable after a victory, and always superior to events, Pulaski attracted and fixed the attention of all Europe, whom he astonished by his long and vigorous resistance. Obligated to abandon one province, he made incursions into, and performed new prodigies of valor in another: and it was thus, that marching successively throout all the palatinates, he signalized in each of them, by some glorious exploit, that eternal hatred which he had sworn against the enemies of Poland.

Wife of a warrior, daughter of a hero, accustomed to the tumult of a camp, Lodoiska accompanied us everywhere. Of five children which she had borne me, an only daughter remained to us, about eighteen months old. One day after a most obstinate engagement, the victorious Russians precipitated themselves towards my tent on purpose to plunder it. Pulaski and myself followed by some nobles flew to the defense of Lodoiska, whom we saved with difficulty; my daughter, however, had

been carried off.

This lovely child, by a sage precaution which her mother had wisely made use of in those times of intestine commotion, had the arms of our family impressed, by means of a chemical preparation, under her left breast; but my search after my daughter has hitherto been ineffectual. Alas Dorliska, my dear Dorliska, either exists in slavery, or exists no more!

This loss affected me with the most lively sorrow. Pulaski, however, appeared almost insensible to my misfortunes; either because his mind was occupied at this moment with the great project which he soon after communicated to me, or because the miseries of his country alone could affect his stoic heart. He, as usual reassembled the remains of his army, took possession of an advantageous post, employed several days in fortifying it, and maintains himself in it for three whole months against all the efforts of the Russians.

It, however, became at length necessary that he should abandon this situation, as provisions were beginning to be scarce. Pulaski on this occasion, came to my tent; and having ordered every one to retire, when he alone remained, he addressed me as follows:

"Lovzinski, I have just reason for complaining of your conduct. Formerly you supported, along with me, the burden of command, and I was enabled to divide with my son-in-law a part of my laborious avocations: but for these two last months, you do nothing but weep; you sigh like a woman! you have abandoned me in a critical moment, when your assistance was become the most necessary! You see how I am attacked on all sides; I fear not for myself; am not unhappy for my own life but if we perish, the state has no longer any defenders.

"Awake Lovzinski! how nobly you once participated in my cares! Do not now remain the useless witness of them. We are indeed bathed in

Russian blood; our fellow citizens are avenged; but they are not saved: not, even in a short time we may be able no longer to defend them."

"You astonish me, Pulaski! Whence these sinister auguries?"

"I am not alarmed without reason. Consider our present position: I am forced to awaken in every heart the love of its country; I have found no where but degenerate men born for slavery or weak ones, who, although penetrated with a sense of their misfortunes, have bounded all their views to barren complaints.

"Some true citizens are indeed ranged under my standards; but eight long and bloody campaigns have lessened their number and almost extinguished them. I become enfeebled by my very victories: our enemies appear more numerous after their defeats."

"I repeat to you, Pulaski, once more, that you astonish me! In circumstances no less disastrous, no less unhappy, than the present, I have beheld you sustain yourself by your courage."

"Do you think that it now abandons me? True valor does not consist in being blind to danger, but in braving it after it has been foreseen! Our enemies prepare for my defeat; however, if you choose Lovzinski, the very day which they point out for their triumph shall perhaps be destined to record their ruin, and achieve the safety of our fellow citizens!"

"If I choose! Can you doubt my sentiments? Speak! what would you have done?"

"To strike the boldest stroke that I ever meditated! Forty chosen men are assembled at Czenstachow along with Kaluvski, whose bravery is well known; they want a chief, able, firm, intrepid—it is you whom I have chosen!"

"Pulaski, I am ready."

"I will not dissemble to you the danger of the enterprise; the event is doubtful, and if you do not succeed, your ruin is inevitable."

"I tell you that I am ready, there-

fore explain yourself."

"You are not ignorant, that scarce four thousand men now fight under my command: with these undoubtedly I have still an opportunity of tormenting our enemies; but with such feeble means I dare not hope to be ever able to force them to leave our provinces. All the nobility would flock beneath our banners if the king were in my camp."

"What do you say? Can you hope that the king would ever consent to repair hither?"

"No, but he must be forced to do so."

"Forced!"

"Yes, I know that an ancient friendship connects you with M. de P. but since you have supported along with Pulaski the cause of liberty, you know also that you ought to sacrifice everything to the good of your country; that an interest so sacred—"

"I know my duty, and I am ready to fulfill it, but what is it that you now propose to me? The king never leaves Warsaw."

"True, and it is, therefore, at Warsaw you must go and find him; it is from the heart of the capital that he must be forced."

"What preparations have you made for so great an enterprise?"

"You behold you Russian army three times as strong as mine, and which has been encamped three months in sight of us; its General, tranquil at present within his entrenchments, impatiently waits until, forced by famine, I shall surrender myself at discretion."

"Behind my camp are marshes which he thinks impracticable: the moment it is night, we shall traverse them. I have disposed of everything in such a manner that the enemy will be deceived and not perceive my retreat until it is too late. I hope therefore to be able to steal more than an hour's march upon them, and if fortune seconds me, perhaps a whole day. I shall advance straight toward Warsaw by the great road that leads to the capital, not with-

standing the efforts of the little Russian bands who hover continually in its neighborhood. I shall either encounter and conquer these separately, or, if they form a junction on purpose to stop my progress, I shall at least be able to occupy their attention in such a manner that they will not be able to impede your operations.

"In the mean time, Lovzinski, you will have preceded me. Your forty soldiers disguised, and armed only with sabres, poinards and pistols concealed under their clothes, shall have arrived at Warsaw by different roads. You must wait there until the king has left his palace. You are then to carry him off, and to bring him to my camp. The enterprise is bold—rash if you please to so term it; the march to Warsaw is difficult; the stay in it dangerous; the return from it extremely perilous. If you are vanquished, if you are taken a prisoner you will perish, Lovzinski, but you will perish a martyr to liberty! and Pulaski, jealous of so glorious an end, fighting at being obliged to survive you, shall send thousands of Russians to accompany you to the tomb!"

"But on the contrary, if an all-powerful Deity; if a God, the protector of Poland, has inspired me with this hardy project to terminate her evils; if thy good fortune shall procure a success equal to thy courage, what a glorious prosperity will be achieved by means of this noble daring!"

"M. de P. will not see in my camp other than citizen-soldiers, the foes of foreigners, but still faithful to their king: under my patriotic tents, he will respire the air of liberty, and the love of his country; the enemies of the state shall become his; our brave nobility, ashamed of their indolence, will readily combat under the royal banners, for the common cause; the Russians shall either be cut in pieces, or be obliged to pass the frontiers—my friend, in thee thy country shall behold her savior."

* * * * *

Pulaski kept his word. That very

night he accomplished his retreat with equal skill and success, by traversing the marshes in profound silence. "My friend," said my father-in-law to me as soon as we were out of the reach of the enemy, "it is now time that you should leave us. I know well that my daughter has more courage than another woman; but she is a tender wife, and an unfortunate mother. Her tears will affect you, and you will lose in her embraces that strength of mind, that dignity of soul, which now becomes more necessary to you than ever: I advise you, therefore, to be gone, without bidding her farewell."

Pulaski pressed me, but in vain for I was unable to consent. As soon as Lodoiska knew that I should depart alone, and perceived that we were resolved not to inform her whither, she shed torrents of tears and strove to detain me. I began to hesitate.

"Lovzinski," cried my father-in-law at this critical moment, "Lovzinski depart! Wife, children, relations all ought to be sacrificed when it is necessary for the salvation of your country."

I instantly mounted my horse and made such haste, that I arrived by the middle of the next day at Czenstachow. I here found forty brave men waiting for me, and determined for the most hazardous enterprize.

"Gentlemen," said I to them, "we are now met on purpose to carry a king out of the midst of his own capital. Those capable of attempting such an enterprize are alone capable of effecting it: either success or death awaits on us!"

After this short harrangue we prepared to depart. Kaluvski, forewarned of our design, had already procured twelve wagons, loaded with hay and straw, each of which was drawn by four good horses.

We instantly disguised ourselves as peasants, hid our clothes, our sabres, our pistols, and the saddles of our horses in the hay with which our wagons were partly filled; we agreed

upon certain signs, and I gave them a watch-word, to be used according to circumstances. Twelve of the conspirators, commanded by Kaluvski, entered into Warsaw, accompanied by as many wagons, which they themselves conducted. I divided the rest of my little troop into several brigades on purpose to avoid suspicion, each was ordered to march at some distance from the other, and to gain the capital by different gates. We departed, and on Saturday, the 2nd of November, 1771, arrived at Warsaw and lodged together at a convent belonging to the Dominicans.

On the next day, which was Sunday, and which will forever form a memorable epoch in the annals of Poland, one of my people of the name of Stravinski, being covered with rags placed himself near the collegiate church, and soon after proceeded demanding charity even at the gates of the royal palace, where he observed everything that passed. Several of the conspirators walked up and down the six narrow streets, in the neighborhood of the great square, where Kaluvski and myself were posted. We remained in ambuscade during the whole of the day, and part of the afternoon.

At six o'clock at night the king left the palace; he was followed, and was seen to enter the hotel of his uncle, the grand chancellor of Lithuania.

All our followers received notice of this event and assembled instantly; they threw off their miserable clothes, saddled their horses, and prepared their arms in the large square belonging to the convent, where their movements were entirely concealed. They then sallied forth one after the other, under favor of the night. Too well known in Warsaw to hazard appearing there without disguising myself, I still wore my peasant dress and mounted an excellent horse, caparisoned, however after the common manner.

I then pointed out to my followers the different posts in the suburbs,

which I had assigned them before our departure from the convent, and they were dispersed in such a manner that all the avenues to the palace of the grand chancellor were carefully and strictly guarded.

Between nine and ten o'clock at night the king came forth on purpose to return home; and we remarked with joy that his attendants were far from being numerous.

The carriage was preceded by two men who carried flambeaux, some officers of his suit, two gentlemen and an esquire followed. I know not what was the name of the grandee in the coach along with the king. There were two pages, one to each door, two haydukes running by the side of the equipage, and three footmen in the royal livery behind.

The king proceeded slowly: part of my people assembled at some distance; twelve of the most determined sprang forward: I put myself at their head and we advanced at a good pace.

As there was a Russian Garrison at that very moment in Warsaw, we effected to speak the language of those foreigners, so that our petty troop might be mistaken for one of their patrols.

We overtook the carriage at about a hundred and fifty paces from the grand chancellor's palace, and exactly between those of the bishop of Cracow and of the late grand general of Poland.

All of a sudden we passed the heads of the foremost horses, so that those who preceded, found themselves separated from those who surrounded the royal equipage.

I instantly gave the signal agreed upon. Kaluvski galloped up with the remainder of the conspirators: I presented a pistol to the postilion, who instantly stopped; the coachman was fired upon, and precipitated beneath the wheels. Of the two haydukes who endeavored to defend their prince one dropped, pierced with two balls; the other was overturned by means of a backhanded stroke from a sabre, which he received on the head; the

steed belonged to the esquire fell down, covered with wounds; one of the pages was dismounted and his horse taken; pistol balls flew about in all directions—in short the attack was so hot, and the fire so violent, that I trembled for the king's life.

He, himself, however, preserved the utmost coolness in the midst of the danger, and now descended from his carriage and was striving to regain his uncle's palace on foot. Kaluvski arrested and seized him by the hair—seven or eight of the conspirators surrounded and disarmed and overpowered him—and pressing him between their horses, made off at a full gallop towards the end of the street.

During this moment, I confess that I thought Pulaski had basely deceived me; that the death of the monarch was resolved upon, and that a plot had been formed to assassinate him.

All of a sudden I formed my resolves; I clapped the spurs to my horse, overtook the little band and ordered them to stop, and threatened to kill the first person who should dare disobey me. That God who is the protector of good kings, watched over the safety of M. de P. Kaluvski and his followers stopped at the sound of my well known voice. We mounted the king on horseback, made off at full speed, and regained the ditch that surrounded the city, which the monarch was constrained to leap, in company with us.

At that moment a panic terror took possession of my troop; at fifty paces distant from the ramparts, there were no more than seven who surrounded the person of the king.

The night was dark and rainy, and it was necessary to dismount every instant on purpose to sound the morass with which we were surrounded.

The horse on which the monarch rode fell twice, and broke his leg at the second fall; during these violent movements his majesty lost his pelisse and the shoe belonging to his left foot.

"If you wish that I should follow you," he said, "you must furnish me

with another horse and a pair of boots."

We remounted him once more, and on purpose to gain the road by which Pulaski had promised me to advance, we resolved to pass through a village called Burakow; but the king exclaimed, "Do not go that way; there are Russians there!"

I immediately changed our route; but in proportion as we advanced thru the wood of Beliany, our number continued to diminish. In a short time I perceived nobody around me but Kaluvski and Stravinski; a few minutes after, we were challenged by a Russian sentinel on horseback, at whose voice we instantly stopped, greatly alarmed for our safety.

"Let us kill him!" cried the ferocious Kaluvski, pointing to the king. I instantly avowed to him without disguise the horror which such a proposition inspired me with. "Very well, you may then take upon yourself the task of conducting him," added the cruel hearted man who immediately precipitated himself into the woods. Stravinski followed him, and I alone remained with the king.

"Lovzinski," said he, addressing himself to me as soon as they were out of sight, "it is you, I can no longer doubt it; it is you, for I well remember your voice!" I uttered not a single word in reply. He then mildly added, "It is certainly you, Lovzinski! Who would have thought this ten years ago?"

We found ourselves at that moment near to the convent of Beliany distant no more than a single league from Warsaw.

"Lovzinski," continued the king permit me to enter this convent, and save yourself."

"You must follow me," was my only reply.

"It is in vain," rejoined the monarch, "that you are disguised; it is in vain that you endeavor to assume a feigned voice: I know you well, I am fully assured that you are Lovzinski: ah, who would have said so ten years since? You would then have lost

your life on condition of preserving that of your friend."

His majesty then ceased to speak. We advanced some time in profound silence, which he again broke, exclaiming: "I am overcome with fatigue—if you wish to carry me alive, permit me to repose myself for a single moment."

I assisted him to descend from his horse; he sat down upon the grass, and making me sit down by his side, took one of my hands and pressed it between his own:

"Lovzinski, you whom I have so much loved, you who know better than anyone the purity of my intentions, how comes it about that you have taken up arms against me? Ungrateful Lovzinski! shall I never find you but amongst my most bitter enemies? Do you return but on purpose to sacrifice me?"

He then, in the most affecting language recapitulated the pleasure of our early youth, our more intimate connection at an age approaching to manhood, the tender friendship which we had sworn to each other, and the regard which he had ever treated me with since that period. He spoke to me of the honours with which he would have loaded me during his reign; if I had been ambitious to merit them: he reproached me more particularly respecting the unworthy enterprise of which I appeared to be the leader, but of which, he said, he was well assured that I was no more than the instrument.

He threw all the horror of the plot upon Pulaski, representing to me, at the same time, that the author of such an attempt was not the sole culpable person; that I could not charge myself with its execution without committing a crime; and that this odious complaisance so highly treasonable in a subject, was infinitely more in a friend. He concluded by pressing me to restore him to his liberty: "Fly," said he to me; and be assured, if I encounter any of the Russian patrols, I shall tell them that you have pursued an opposite road

from that which you have taken.”

The king continued to press me with the most earnest entreaties: his natural eloquence, agumented by the danger of his situation, carried persuasion to my heart, and wakened the most tender sentiments there.

I confess that I staggered; I balanced the circumstances for some time in my own mind, but Pulaski at length triumphed.

I thought that I still heard the fierce republican reproaching me with pusillanimity. The love of one's country has perhaps its fanaticism and its superstitions: but if I was then culpable, I am still so; I am more than ever persuaded that in obliging the king to remount his horse, I performed an action that reflected honor on my patriotism.

“Is it thus” said he to me, in a melancholy accent, “that you reject the prayer addressed to you by a friend? that you refuse the pardon offered to you by your king? Well, then, let us be gone. I deliver myself up to my unhappy fate, or rather, I abandon you to yours.”

We then recommenced our journey, but the entreaties of the monarch, his arguments, his reproaches, his very menaces, the struggles which I felt within myself, affected me in such a manner, that I no longer could discern my way. Wandering up and down the country, I kept no one certain road: after half an hour's fatigue we found ourselves at Marimont, and I was greatly alarmed at seeing us thus return towards Warsaw instead of leaving it at a distance. At about a quarter of league beyond this we unfortunately fell in with a party of Russians. The king immediately discovered himself to the commanding officer, and then instantly added, “In the course of the preceding afternoon I happened to bewilder myself during the chase; this good peasant, whom you see here, insisted on my partaking a frugal repast in his cottage; but as I thought that I perceived some of the soldiers of Pulaski roaming in the neighbor-

hood, I was desirous of returning to Warsaw immediately, and you will oblige me much by instantly accompanying me thither.

“As to you, my friend”, continued he, turning at the same time towards me, “I am not at all sorry that you have given yourself this useless trouble, for I am as much pleased at returning to my capital attended by these gentlemen (pointing at the same time to the escort) as in accompanying you any farther. However, it would be improper that I should leave you without any recompense—what are you desirous of? Speak—I will grant you any favor which you may demand of me!”

It will be easy to conceive how much I was alarmed, for I was still doubtful of the king's intentions. I endeavored to discover the true meaning of his equivocal discourse which must be either full of a bitter irony, or magnanimous address. M de P. left me for some time in this cruel uncertainty: “I behold you greatly embarrassed”, he continued at length with a gracious air, “you know not what to choose from, then my friend, so I will allow you to return to your home, and later claim from me your reward. Others less grateful for assistance would not at this moment be so generous as myself!” On uttering these words, he instantly departed, leaving me penetrated with gratitude, and confounded with so much greatness.

However, the danger which the king had so generously relieved me from began every moment to assail me again. It was more than probable a great number of courtiers expedited from Warsaw, had spread about on all sides the astonishing news of the king having been carried off. Already, without doubt the ravishers were warmly pursued. My remarkable dress might betray me in my flight, and if I once more fell into the hands of any of the Russians, better informed of the circumstance, all the efforts of the king would not be able to save me. Supposing Pu-

laski had obtained all the success which he expected, he must still be at a great distance: a journey of ten more leagues at least remained for me to perform, and my horse was entirely spent from fatigue: I endeavored to spur him on, but he had not gone five hundred paces before he fell under me.

A cavalier, well mounted, happened to pass along the road by the side of me at this very moment, and perceiving the poor animal tumble down, and thinking to amuse himself at the expense of an unfortunate peasant, he began to banter me about my situation. Piqued at his buffoonery, resolved to punish him for his raillery and secure my own flight at one and the same time. I therefore presented one of my pistols to his breast and obliged him to surrender his own horse to me—nay, I acknowledge to you, that, forced by the peculiarity of my situation, I despoiled him even of his cloak, which being very large, hid all my rags beneath it, which otherwise might have discovered me. I then cast my purse full of gold at the feet of the astonished traveller and sprang forward as fast as my new horse would carry me.

Luckily for me, he was fresh and vigorous. I darted forward twelve leagues with all the swiftness of an arrow: at length I thought I heard the firing of cannon, and I conjectured that my father-in-law was at hand, and was employed in fighting the Russians. I was not deceived. I arrived on the field of battle at the very moment when one of our regiments had given way. I instantly discovered myself to the fugitives, and having rallied them beneath a neighboring hill, I attacked the enemies in flank while Pulaski charged them in front with the remainder of his troops. Our maneuvers were so well concerted, and so admirably executed, that the Russians were entirely routed, after experiencing a terrible carnage.

Pulaski deigned to attribute to me the honor of their defeat: "Ah," he

cried, embracing me, after hearing the particulars of my expedition—"ah, if your forty followers had but equalled you in courage, the king would at this very moment be in my camp! But the Deity does not will it. I am grateful, however, that you have been preserved to us; and I return to you thanks for the important service which you have rendered me: but for you Kaluvski would have assassinated the monarch, and my name would have been covered with an eternal opprobrium!

"I might have been able," added he, "to have advanced two miles farther: but I rather chose to take possession of this respectable post, on account of the security of my camp. Yesterday in the course of my march, I surprised and cut to pieces a party of Russians; this morning I beat two more of their detachments, but another considerable corps having collected the remainder of the vanquished, took advantage of the night on purpose to attack me. My soldiers, fatigued with the toil of a long march, and three succeeding engagements, began to fly; but victory returned to my camp at your approach. Let us entrench ourselves here; we will wait for the Russian army and fight while we yet have a drop of blood remaining!"

In the mean time, the camp resounded with the cries of gladness, and our victorious soldiers mingled my praises with those of Pulaski. At the noise of my name, repeated by a thousand tongues, Lodoiska ran to her father's tent. She convinced me of the excess of her tenderness, by the excess of her joy at our meeting; and I was obliged once more to commence the recital of the dangers from which I had escaped. She could not hear of the singular generosity of the monarch when I was in the power of the Russians, without shedding tears: "How magnanimous he is!" exclaimed she, amidst a transport of joy: "how worthy of being a king, he who so generously pardoned you! How many sighs has he spared a

wife whom you forsake! how many tears the loving wife whom you are not afraid of sacrificing! Cruel Lovzinski, are not the dangers to which you daily expose yourself sufficient,"

Pulaski here interrupted his daughter with a certain degree of harshness: "Indiscreet and weak woman!" exclaimed he, "is it before me that you dare hold such a discourse as this?"

"Alas!" replied she in a mild accent; "alas! must I forever tremble for the life of a father and a husband?" Lodoiska also made the most affecting complaints to me, and sighed after a more happy futurity, while fortune was preparing for us the most cruel reverse.

Our Cossacks, placed at the outposts now came in from all parts and informed us that the Russian army was approaching. Pulaski reckoned on being attacked at the break of day, but he was not: however, about the middle of the following night I was informed that the enemy were preparing to force our entrenchments.

Pulaski always ready, always active, was actually defending them: during the course of this fatal night, he achieved every thing that might have been expected from his valor and experience. We repelled the assailants no less than five different times, but they returned unceasingly to the charge, pouring in fresh troops at every attack, and, during the last one, penetrated into the very heart of our camp by three different avenues at one and the same time.

Zaremba was killed by my side, a crowd of nobles fell in this bloody action; the enemy refused to give any quarter. Furious at seeing all my friends perish before my eyes, I resolved to precipitate myself into the midst of the Russian battalions.

"Heedless man!" exclaimed Pulaski, "what blind fury urges you toward your destruction! My army is completely routed — destroyed — but my courage still remains! Why should we perish uselessly here? Let us be gone! I will conduct you to

the climes where we may raise up new enemies against the Russian name. Let us live, since we can still serve our country! Let us save ourselves, let us save Lodoiska."

"Lodoiska! am I capable of abandoning her?"

We instantly ran to her tent—we were scarce in time: we carried her off, precipitating ourselves into the neighboring woods, and on the next morning we ventured to sally forth, and presented ourselves before the gate of a castle that was not altogether unknown to us.

It indeed belonged to a noble Pole who had served some time in our army. Micislas instantly came forth and offered an asylum, which he advised us, however, to make use of for a few hours only. He informed us that a very astonishing piece of news had spread abroad on the former evening, and began to be confirmed, according to which the king himself had been carried away out of Warsaw; that the Russians had pursued the conspirators, and brought back the monarch to his capital; and that, in fine, it was talked of putting a price upon the head of Pulaski, who was suspected of being the author of this treason.

"Believe me," said he, "when I assure you, whether you have been engaged or not in this bold plot, that you ought to fly; leave your uniforms here, which will assuredly betray you—I will instantly supply you with clothes which are less remarkable; and as to Lodoiska, I myself will conduct her to the place which you have chosen for your retreat."

Lodoiska now interrupted Micislas: "The place of my retreat shall be that of their flight, for I will accompany them everywhere."

Pulaski represented to his daughter that she was not able to sustain the fatigues incident to such a long journey, and besides, that we should be liable to continual dangers.

"The greater the peril is", replied she, "the more I ought to partake in it with you. You have repeated to

me a hundred times, that the daughter of Pulaski ought not to be an ordinary woman. For the last eight years I have constantly lived in the midst of alarms; I have seen nothing but scenes of carnage and horror. Death has environed me on all sides, and menaced me at every moment: will you not permit me to brave it now by your side? Is not the life of Lodoiska connected with that of her father? Lovzinski, will not the stroke that fells you to the ground send your wife to the grave? and am I no longer worth—”

I then interrupted Lodoiska, and joined with her father, in stating reasons which determined us to leave her in Poland. She heard me with impatience: “Ungrateful man,” exclaimed she at length, “will you fly without me?” “You shall remain,” replied Pulaski, “with Lovzinski’s sisters, and I prohibit you—”

His daughter, now frantic with grief, would not permit him to finish the sentence.

“I know your rights, my father! I respect them; they shall always appear sacred to me, but you do not possess that of separating a wife from her husband.

“Ah, pardon me! I see that I offend you—my reason no longer maintains its empire—But pity my grief—Excuse my despair— My father! Lovzinski! hear me, both of you; I am determined to accompany you everywhere!

“Yes, I will follow you everywhere, cruel men! I will follow you in spite of yourselves! Lovzinski, if your wife has lost all of the rights she had over your heart, recollect at least her who was once mistress of your affections. Recall to your remembrance that frightful night, when I was about to perish in the flames; that terrible moment when you ascended the burning tower, crying out, let me live or die with Lodoiska! That which you felt at that terrible moment, I now experience! I know no greater evil than that of being separated from you; and I now exclaim in my turn,

let me either live or die with my father and my husband!

“Unfortunate wretch! what will become of me if you should forsake me. Reduced to the cruel situation of bewailing you both, where shall I find a solace for my miseries? Will my children console me? Alas in two years death hath snatched four away from me; and the Russians equally pitiless as death itself, have bereaved me of the last! I have only you remaining in the world, and even you wish to abandon me! my father! my husband! Will such dear connections as these be insensible to my sufferings! Have compassion, take pity on your own Lodoiska.” * * * *

Her tears now intercepted her speech. Micislas wept; my heart was torn with anguish. “You are resolved to accompany us, my daughter—be it so; I consent,” said Pulaski, “but I wish that heaven may not punish me for my complaisance!”

Lodoiska embraced us both with an much joy as if all our ills had been at an end. I left two letters with Micislas, which he undertook to transmit according to the direction: the one was addressed to my sisters, and the other to Boleslas. I bade them adieu and I recommended to them, to neglect no means to endeavor to recover my dear Dorliska!

It was necessary that I should disguise my wife—she assumed a masculine dress; we changed our own, and we employed all the means in our power to disguise ourselves in such a manner as to elude research and prevent discovery.

Thus altered in our appearance, armed with our sabres and our pistols, provided with a considerable sum in gold, with some trinkets, and all the jewels of Lodoiska, we took leave of Micislas, and made haste to regain the woods.

Pulaski then communicated to us the design which he had formed of taking refuge in Turkey. He hoped to be employed in a situation equal to his rank and his abilities, in the armies of the grand signor, who had

for the last two years with difficulty sustained a disastrous war against the Russians.

Lodoiska did not appear in the least affrighted at the long journey which we had to make; and as she could neither be known nor sought after, she insisted upon going out to reconnoitre the adjacent country, and at the same time charged herself with the fatiguing but important task of bringing us the provisions we stood in need of.

As soon as the day appeared, we retired into the wood; hid either in the trunks of trees, or in thick groves of pines; we waited impatiently for the return of night, on purpose to continue our march. It was thus that during several weeks, we were enabled to escape from the search of a multitude of different bodies of Russian troops, who were sent out on purpose to discover us, and who pursued us like so many blood hounds, animated with the passions of hatred and revenge.

One day as Lodoiska, still disguised as a peasant, returned from a neighboring hamlet, where she had gone on purpose to purchase the provisions which she was now conveying to us, two Russian marauders attacked her at the entry of the forest in which we were concealed.

After having robbed, they prepared to strip her. At the shrieks which she uttered we hastened from our retreat, and the two ruffians immediately betook themselves to flight upon our appearance—but we were greatly alarmed lest they should recount this adventure to their companions, whose suspicions aroused by this singular encounter, might induce them to come and drag us from our asylum.

After a most fatiguing journey, we entered Polesia. * Pulaski wept at leaving his native country.

"At least," he exclaimed, with a

* (Polesia is a name given to the palatinate of Breste in Lithuania; Breste, Briescia, or Bressica, is situated upon the river Bog.)

mournful accent—"at least I have faithfully served you, and I now only go into exile that I may be enabled to serve you again."

So many fatigues had exhausted the strength of Lodoiska. Arriving at Novogorod,**, we resolved to stop there on purpose to give her time to recover her strength. It was our design to remain some days, but some of the country people whom we questioned, frankly informed us, that a number of troops were in motion in that neighborhood, on purpose to arrest a certain person of the name of Pulaski, who had occasioned the king of Poland to be taken prisoner, and carried off from the midst of his own capital.

Justly alarmed at this intelligence, we remained but a few hours in this town, where we, however, found the means to purchase some horses without being discovered.

We then passed the Desna above Czernicove;* and following the banks of the Sula we crossed that river at Perevoleczna, where we learned that Pulaski, who had been traced to Novogorod, has escaped as it were by miracle, and that the Russian soldiers indefatigable in their pursuit, were still searching after him, and were in hopes of making him prisoner.

It was now become necessary to fly once more, and once more to change our route. We therefore instantly made for the immense forests which cover the face of the country between the Sula and the Zem, in the dark retreats of which we hoped to find shelter from our foes.

We at length discovered a cavern, in which we were reduced to the necessity of taking up our abode. A

** (There are several towns of this name in Russia. This seems to have been Novogorod Welicki, or Great Novogorod, the capital of a duchy of the same name.)

* (Czernicove, or Czernikou, is a considerable town and is the capital of a duchy of the same name. It is situated on the river Desna, 75 miles northeast of Kiow.)

she bear disputed with us the entrance into this asylum equally solitary and frightful. We assailed and killed her and devoured her young.

Pulaski was wounded in this encounter: Lodoiska, worn out with fatigue and distress, was scarcely able to support her existence; the winter was approaching, and the cold was already excessive.

Pursued by the Russians in the inhabited parts; menaced by wild and ferocious animals in this vast desert; destitute of any arms but our swords, reduced in a short time to eat our very horses—what was to become of us?

The danger of the situation to which my father-in-law and my wife were reduced, had become so pressing that no other fear any longer alarmed me. My personal safety, hitherto so dear to me, did not now suggest itself once to my mind—I felt only for theirs. I resolved therefore, to procure to them at any rate those succors which their situation required, which was still more deplorable than my own; and leaving them both with the promise of rejoining them in a short time, I took a few of the diamonds belonging to Lodoiska, and followed the stream of the Warsklo.

It is well known that a traveler, bewildered amidst those vast countries and reduced to the necessity of wandering about without a compass, and without a guide, is obliged to follow the course of a river, because it is upon its banks that the habitations of mankind are most commonly to be met with.

It was necessary that I should gain as soon as possible, some considerable town in which a few merchants resided: I therefore journeyed along the bank of the Warsklo, and traveling day and night, found myself at Pultava* at the end of four days. During my residence in this place, I passed for a trader, belonging to Bielgorod. I there learned that the Russian troops were still roaming about in pursuit of Pulaski, and that the empress had sent an exact discription of

his person everywhere, with orders to seize him either dead or alive, wherever he might be found.

I made haste to sell my diamonds, to purchase powder, arms and provisions of all kinds, different utensils, and some coarse, necessary furniture, everything, in fine, which I judged most proper to relieve our misery, and soften our misfortunes. With these I loaded a wagon drawn by four good horses, of which I was the only conductor.

My return was equally tedious and difficult; no less than eight whole days expired before I arrived at the entrance of the forest.

It was there, that terminating my disagreeable and dangerous journey, I was about to succor my father-in-law and my wife, that I was about to revisit all that was most dear to me in the world, and yet I felt none of those transports of joy which such an event seemed likely to inspire.

Philosophers have no belief in forebodeings. Certain it is, however, that I experienced an involuntary uneasiness: my mind became dispirited, dismayed, and something, I know not what, seemed to whisper to me that the most unhappy moment of my whole life was fast approaching.

On my departure I had placed several flintstones at certain distances, on purpose to enable me to retrace my road; but I could not now discover them. I had also cut off with my sabre large pieces of bark of several trees, which I could not now perceive. I enter the forest, however: I hollow with all my strength: I discharge my gun from time to time, but nobody answered me. I dared not trust myself among the trees, and shrubs for fear of losing my way

* (Pultoway, Pultowa, of Pultava, is a fortified town in Ukraine, famous for a battle fought in its neighborhood between Charles XII. of Sweden and Peter the Great of Russia. It is 100 miles southwest of Bielgorod, from which Lovzinski pretended to have come on purpose to purchase merchandise, etc.)

back again; neither could I wander too far from the wagon which was stored with provisions so necessary to Pulaski, his daughter, and myself.

The night, which now approached, obliged me to give over my search, and I passed it in the same manner as the former. Rolled up in my cloak, I lay down beneath my wagon, which I had carefully surrounded with my larger moveables, and which thus served me as a rampart against the wild beasts. I could not sleep; the cold was extremely intense; the snow fell in great abundance; at the break of day I looked around and found all the ground covered with it. From that moment I formed the most horrible and the most sinister pre-ages: the stones that might have pointed out the path were all buried, and it appeared impossible I should ever be able to discover my father-in-law and my wife.

Had the horse, which I had left with them at my departure, afforded them sufficient sustenance ever since? Had not hunger, cruel hunger, obliged them to fly from their retreat? Were they still concealed in those frightful deserts? If they were not there, where should I be able to find them? Where without them should I drag out my miserable existence? * * * * *

But could I believe that Pulaski had abandoned his son-in-law? Had Lodoiska consented to separate herself from her husband? No—undoubtedly not. They were still confined within the circle of this frightful solitude; and if I abandoned them, they must die with famine and cold! * * * * *

These desperate reflections at length determined my conduct, and I no longer examined whether or not in removing at a distance from my wagon I was in danger of never finding it again. To carry some provisions to my father-in-law and wife, to succor Pulaski and Lodoiska—these were now the only sentiments that occupied my mind.

I accordingly seized my fowling

piece, took some powder and shot, and loaded one of my horses with necessaries; I pierced into the woods much farther than during the former evening; I again hollowed with all my strength; I again made frequent discharges of my gun. The most melancholy silence reigned around me.

I now found myself in a part of the forest where the trees were so extremely thick that there was no longer any passage for my horse: I therefore tied him to a tree, and my despair getting the better of every other consideration, I still continued to advance with my gun, and part of my provisions. I had now wandered about for two hours or more, my inquietude forcing me every moment to redouble my pace, when at length I perceived human footsteps imprinted on the snow. Hope gave me new strength, and I therefore followed the traces which were still fresh. Soon after I discovered Pulaski, almost naked, emaciated with hunger, and so changed as scarce to be known even to me!

He made all the efforts in his power to drag his limbs toward me, and to reply to my enquiries. The moment that I had rejoined him, he seized, with avidity, on the victuals that I presented to him and devoured them in an instant. I then demanded of him where Lodoiska was.

“Alas!” he said, “you will see her there!” The tone of voice in which he pronounced these words made me tremble. I ran to, I arrived at the cavern, too well prepared for the melancholy spectacle that awaited me. Lodoiska, wrapped up in her own clothes, and covered with those of her father, was extended upon a bed of half rotten leaves!

She raised with some difficulty, her weary head, and refusing the aliments which I offered her, addressed me as follows: “I am not hungry! The death of my children; the loss of Dorliska; our journeys, so long, so laborious, so difficult: your dangers which seemed to increase daily—these have killed me! I was unable

to resist fatigue and sorrow. My friend, I am dying—I hear thy voice, and my soul was stopped in its flight—We shall meet again! Lodoiska ought to die in the arms of a husband whom she adores! Assist my father! May he live? Live both of you—console yourselves and forget me!

* * * * *

“Search everywhere for my dear”

She was unable to pronounce the name of her daughter, and instantly expired!

* * *

Her father dug a grave for her at a little distance from the cavern; and I beheld the earth enclose all that I loved in this world! * * * *

What a trying moment! Pulask alone prevented me from becoming the victim of despair: he forced me to survive Lodoiska! * * * *

Pulaski, whose courage never abandoned him, and whose strength was by this time restored, obliged me to occupy myself jointly with him in the business of procuring our subsistence.

By following along the snow, the prints of my footsteps, we arrived at length at the place where I had left my waggon, which we immediately unloaded, and burned soon after, on purpose to withhold from our enemies the most distant suspicion of the place of our retreat.

By the aid of our horses, for which we procured a passage, by making a circuitous journey, instead of attempting to bring them straight to the place of our retreat, we were at length able to transport those provisions and moveables to our cavern, which it was so necessary for us to procure, and to husband, if we resolved to remain much longer in this solitude. We soon after killed our horses, which we were unable to supply with food. We lived upon their flesh, which the rigor of the season preserved for a considerable time; it corrupted, however, at length; and our firearms being unable to procure us any other than a scanty supply of game, we were obliged to have recourse to our provisions, which at

the end of three months were entirely consumed.

Some gold, and the greater part of Lodoiska's diamonds still remained. Should I make a second voyage to Pultava? Or should we both run the hazard of such an undertaking and quit our retreat in company? We had already suffered so much and so cruelly in this forest that we resolved to embrace the latter resolution.

We accordingly sallied forth; we passed the Sem near Rylks; we purchased a boat there, and disguising ourselves in the dress of fishermen, we descended that river, and entered the Desna.

Our boat was visited at Czernicove but misery had so disfigured Pulaski that it was impossible any longer to recognize him. We then entered the Pnieper; we crossed from the Kiof* to Krylow. There we were obliged to receive into our boat, and carry to the other side, several Russian soldiers, who were on their march to join a small army employed against Pugatchew.

At Zaporiskaia we heard of the capture of Bender and Oczakow, the conquest of the Crimed, and the defeat and subsequent death of the Vizir Oglou.

Pulaski, reduced to a state of desperation, was anxious to traverse the vast deserts that separated him from Pugatchew, on purpose to join himself to that enemy of the Russians, but the excess of our fatigues obliged us to remain at Zaporiskaia.

The peace, which was soon after concluded between Russia and the Porte, at length afforded us the means of entering Turkey.

On foot, and still disguised, we crossed the Boudziac, part of Moldavia, and Wallachia, and after a thousand unforeseen and unexpected difficulties and fatigues, we at length arrived at Adrianople. Having remained for some time at this

* (Kiof, or Kiow, is a palatinate in which is situated a town of the same name, which is reckoned the capital of the Ukraine.)

place on purpose to repair our exhausted forces, we prepared to depart; but we were arrested, and being carried before the Cadi were accused of having sold several diamonds in the course of our journey, which we had apparently stolen. The miserable clothes with which we were covered, had given rise to this suspicion. Pulaski discovered himself to the mussulman judge, and he sent us immediately to Constantinople.

We were admitted shortly after to an audience of the grand signor. He ordered apartments to be prepared for us, and assigned us a liberal pension upon his treasury.

I then wrote to my sisters, and to Boleslas. We learned by their answers that all the property of Pulaski had been confiscated, that he was degraded from his rank, and condemned to lose his head. My father-in-law was in the utmost consternation on receiving this intelligence; he was filled with indignation at being accused as a regicide: he wrote home in his own justification.

Constantly animated, and devoured as it were with the love of his country, continually influenced by the mortal hatred which he had sworn against its enemies, he never ceased during the whole four years that we remained in Turkey, to endeavor by his intrigues, to oblige Porte to declare war against Russia.

In 1774, amidst a transport of rage he received intelligence of the triple invasion,* which bereaved the republic of one-third of its possessions.

It was in the spring of 1776, that the patriots of America, fearful of the tyranny of an island which once boasted of its own liberties, resolved to redeem their violated rights by

* (The dismemberment of Poland, by the Empress of Russia, the Emperor of Germany, and the king of Prussia. This event which took place by the agreement of three royal robbers, is one of the most disgraceful actions that ever stained the page of humanity.)

force of arms. My country has lost her freedom, said Pulaski to me one day; but, ah, let us still fight for that of a new people!

We passed into Spain, we embarked on board a vessel bound for Havana, from whence we repaired to Philadelphia. The congress instantly presents us with commissions and employed us in the army of General Washington.

Pulaski, consumed with a black melancholy, exposed himself like a man to whom life had become insupportable, was always to be found at the most dangerous posts, and toward the end of the fourth campaign, was mortally wounded by my side. Being carried to his tent, I instantly repaired thither to console him.

"I find my end approaches", said he, addressing himself to me. "Ah! it is but too true that I shall never see my native country again!

"Cruel, fanatical destiny! Pulaski falls a martyr to American liberty, and the Poles still continue slaves!

* * * * *

My friend, my death would be indeed horrible, if a ray of hope did not remain to cheer me! Ah! I hope I do not deceive myself—No, I am not mistaken," he added with a firmer accent. "A consoling Deity discloses in my last thoughts a futurity, a happier futurity which approaches!

"I beheld one of the first nations in the world awakening from a long and deep slumber, and re-demanding of its proud oppressors its violated honors, and its ancient rights; its sacred imprescriptible rights, the rights of humanity.

"I behold in an immense capitol, long dishonored by every species of servility, a crowd of soldiers discovering themselves to be citizens, and millions of citizens becoming soldiers.

"Beneath their redoubled blows, The Bastille shall be overturned; the signal is already given from one extremity of the empire to another—the reign of tyrants is no more!

"A neighboring people, sometimes

an enemy, but always generous, always worthy of deciding upon great actions, shall applaud those unexpected efforts, crowned with such a speedy success!

"Ah, may a reciprocal esteem commence and strengthen between these two nations an unalterable friendship! May that horrible science of trick, imposture, and treason, which courts denominate politics, hold out no obstacle to prevent this fraternal reunion!

"Noble rivals in talents and philosophy, Frenchmen! Englishmen! suspend at length, and suspend forever, those bloody discords, the fury of which has but too often extended over the two hemispheres; no longer decide between you the empire of the universe, but by the force of your example, and the ascendancy of your genius. Instead of the cruel advantage of affrighting, and subduing the nations around you, dispute between yourselves the more solid glory of enlightening their ignorance, and breaking their chains.

"Approach," added Pulaski, "behold at a little distance from, and in the midst of the carnage that surrounds us, among such a crowd of famous warriors, a warrior celebrated even in the midst of them, by his masculine courage, his early talents, and his virtues truly republican. He is the heir of a name long illustrious; but he had no occasion for the glory of his ancestors, to render himself celebrated.

"It is young Fayette, already an honor to France, and a scourge to tyrants; but he has scarce begun his mortal labors!

"Envy his fate, Lovzinski; endeavor to imitate his virtues, and follow as near as possible the steps of so great a man. He, the worthy pupil of a Washington, shall soon be the Washington of his own country. It is almost at the same time my friend, it is at that memorable epoch of the regeneration of nations, that the eternal justice shall also present to our fellow citizens, the days of ven-

geance and of liberty.

"Then Lovzinski, in whatever thou mayest be, let thy hate rekindle! Again combat gloriously on the side of Poland.

"Let the remembrance of your injuries, and of our successes, call forth thy courage! May thy sword, so many times empurpled with the blood of our enemies, be still turned against those oppressors. May they tremble while thinking on thy exploits! May they tremble in recalling the name of Pulaski!

"They have ravished from us our property; they have assassinated thy wife; they have robbed thee of thy daughter; they have dishonored my memory!

"The barbarians! They have dismembered our provinces! Lovzinski, these are injuries which you ought never to forget.

"When our persecutors are those also of our country, vengeance becomes at once sacred and indispensable.

"You owe to the Russians an eternal hatred! You owe to Poland the last drop of your blood!"

Saying this he expired*

Death, in snatching him from me, bereaved me of my last consolation.

I fought for the United States of America, until the happy peace which ensured their independence. M. de C. who had served along with me, and who was attached to the corps commanded by the Marquis de la Fayette. M. de C. gave me letters of recommendation to his friends in Paris, and this capital I have chosen for my retreat in the meridian of life, from the bustle of politics, and the clangor of arms.

Having informed my sisters of the place of my residence, they collected the small remains of my fortune, formerly immense, and hastened to solace me after the distressing scenes I had unfortunately witnessed.

* * * * *

The affecting history of the Baron

*(Pulaski was killed at the siege of Savannah, in 1779)

de Lovzinski, which he related to a friend, breaks off without giving any account of Dorkiska, his darling daughter, whom the Russians carried off, in one of their engagements with Pulaski. It appears from accounts given by an acquaintance of the Bar-

on, that she fell into the hands of Count Gorkitz, a German nobleman, who placed her in a suitable seminary, and was by accident, restored to her father, and united to a branch of a very distinguished family.

FINIS



