

# La Fayette (1824)

Woodworth, Samuel . La Fayette, Or the Castle Of Olmutz . 50 p. New York: C. N. Baldwin, 1824.

[ProQuest document link](#)

---

## FULL TEXT

LA FAYETTE

OR THE

CASTLE OF OLMUTZ.

A DRAMA, IN THREE ACTS, As performed at the New-York Park Theatre, WITH UNBOUNDED APPLAUSE.

Front matter

[Page ]

	Marquis La Fayette,	Mr. Maywood.
	Gen. Lohrstein,	Foot.
	Bribenberg,	Kent.
	Huger,	Simpson.
	Bolman,	Clarke.
	Leopold,	Woodhull.
	Walter,	Placide.
	Wormsberg,	Reed.
	Sergeant,	Wheatley.
<i>Soldiers, Peasants, &amp;c.</i>		Countess Steinberg,
Mrs. Wheatley.		Ellen,
Miss Johnson.		Rosara,

Mrs. Clarke.		Annette,
Mrs. Bancker.		Paulina,

[Page ]

## LA FAYETTE'S WELCOME.

*Sung by Mr. Keene.*

Hark! the martial drum hails the approach of the brave;  
The hero who comes o'er the proud-swelling wave,  
To the land he defended, the land of the free,  
Which greets his return with a grand jubilee,  
While her sons, to acknowledge sweet gratitude's debt.  
Now awake the loud bugle, to hail La Fayette.

All hail, gallant soldier! thy fame shall extend,  
As Liberty's champion, and Washington's friend;  
Till all, in the light of its glory, shall see  
A world disentrall'd, independent, and free;  
While millions, inspired by sweet gratitude's debt.  
Shall awake the loud bugle, to hail La Fayette.

[Page ]

## Main text

### ACT I.

#### Scene I.

*—A street in the city of Olmutz. On one side a hotel, sign of the Three Swans; on the other, the chateau of the countess Steinberg.*

*Enter the **Countess** and **Ellen**, in travelling dresses.*

Countess.

[1] There, thank Heaven, we are once [2] more safe in Olmutz, and if ever I leave it again, [3] may I lose my coronet on the road.

Ellen.

[4] Nay, my dear aunt, I am sure that our [5] journey has been a very pleasant one.

Countess.

[6] Vastly pleasant, indeed! if pleasure [7] consists in being shaken to a jelly on a rough road, [8] and overturned at the end of it. But I have no [9] taste for such pleasures, I assure you, Miss.

Ellen.

[10] At any rate, aunt, you will admit that [11] our time passed pleasantly during our stay at [12] Vienna.

Countess.

[13] No doubt *you* think so, Miss; for [14] that young American (whose name I cannot remember) [15] has run in your head ever since you

[Page 6]

[16] danced with him at my brother the Baron de [17] Bevern's. But you must forget him now.

Ellen.

[18] I am not quite sure, aunt, that it is possible [19] for me to forget him entirely. But why [20] should you wish it?

Countess.

[21] He has no title.

Ellen.

(*archly*)

[22] O yes he has, aunt.

Countess.

[23] He has.

Ellen.

[24] Yes he has; the richest title in the [25] world, and one that I esteem beyond that of a [26] Dutchess.

Countess.

[27] Indeed! Then he has entrusted [28] you with a secret that does not exist; for in *his*[29] country all distinctions of rank are abolished, and [30] I should be looked upon there with no more respect [31] than if I had never been a countess. But [32] pray, Miss, under what title has he imposed on [33] your credulity and inexperience?

Ellen.

[34] The amiable Francis is incapable of [35] imposition; and the only title of which he boasts, [36]

(and it is one of which he has a right to boast,)

is [37] that of an *American citizen*.

Countess.

[38] I am sorry to perceive, Miss, that he [39] has been successful in the exercise of one art for [40] which his countrymen are somewhat celebrated.

Ellen.

[41] What art, aunt?

Countess.

[42] The art of *revolutionizing*; for [43] until this visit to Vienna your mind was a stranger [44] to such sentiments. Boast of belonging to a country [45] where the supreme ruler is not distinguished [46] from the tailor who makes his coat! A pretty [47] expression for the ear of a countess. And pray [48] Miss, why ought he to boast of it?

Ellen.

[49] Because it is the country of Washington. [50] the greatest of heroes, and the best of men.

[Page 7]

*Enter Servants with baggage.*

Countess.

[51] There, Sirrahs—knock at that door. [52] Come, Ellen, your father and cousin Rosara, are [53] doubtless both impatient to embrace you, and to [54] learn the particulars of my embassy. But if ever [55] I go to Vienna after another niece, I will go in a [56] different vehicle, I promise you. Come, let us [57] in; and, mind ye, think no more of that republican [58] adventurer.

[*Exeunt into Chateau.*]

*Enter Huger and Bolman.*

Huger.

[59] Well, Huger, considering that I travel [60] in the character of your patient, I think I have [61] rode tolerably

hard, and begin to feel evident [62] symptoms of an approaching appetite.

Bolman.

[63] Look younder, and you may see an [64] approaching appetite: your servant Walter, gaping [65] like a school-boy in search of bird's nests.

Huger.

[66] A fellow that never properly considers [67] any subject, although the word is eternally on his [68] tongue.

Bolman.

[69] But whose education and mental capacity [70] are obviously superior to his present situation.

Huger.

[71] I have reason to believe they are. In [72] this instance, however, his eye-sight must have [73] failed in the same ratio that his appetite has increased; [74] for I perceive, by his looks, that he has [75] not yet discovered a sign of entertainment.

*Enter*

*Walter,*

*looking about him.*

[76] Where are our horses, Sirrah?

Walter.

[77] Consider them at dinner, Sir, for they [78] are regaling themselves on the remnant of our [79] last meal.

[Page 8]

Huger.

[80] Our last meal! Explain yourself.

Walter.

[81] Feeding on air, sir, as we have all [82] been compelled to do for the last ten leagues.

Bolman.

[83] And why have you not conducted [84] them to a more substantial repast?

Walter.

[85] Lord love you, Mr. Bolm—Doctor, I [86] meant to say—I have been looking for a tavern [87] ever since you dismounted.

Huger.

[88] And had you half the brains of a [89] goose, you would have seen the sign of the *Three*[90] *Swans*.

Walter.

[91] Where?

Bolman.

[92] There, within a dozen yards of your [93] nose.

Walter.

[94] Had they been three roasted pheasants, [95] I should have smelt out the secret myself, [96] for in such cases I always follow my nose by instinct.

Huger.

[97] Well, follow it now; and inquire if [98] we can be accommodated in that hotel. But, [99] mind—if you blab our real names, you never blab [100] again.

Walter.

[101] Consider me the paragon of discretion, [102] Sir. I will announce Doctor, Kehberg, and his patient, [103] Mr. Francis.

*[Exit Walter into the hotel.]*

Huger.

[104] Now, my friend, since we are safe [105] in Olmutz, redeem your promise, and explain the [106] object of this masquerade.

Bolman.

[107] Excuse me, until we have obtained [108] some refreshments. In the mean time, recollect [109] our agreement, that we are both to remain *incognito*, [110] and sustain our respective characters, until [111] we have again left Olmutz and arrived at Trappaw, [112] the nearest town in the Prussian dominions, and [113] not more than thirty miles hence.

[Page 9]

Huger.

[114] Provided, always—but, I ask your [115] pardon. My confidence in your honour and [116] friendship is sufficient to make a proviso unnecessary [117] Bear in mind, however, that my heart remains [118] at Vienna.

Bolman.

[119] As mine does at Hanover.

*Re-enter*

*Walter*

*from the hotel.*

[120] Well, sir, what says the landlord?

Walter.

[121] Consider yourselves accommodated, [122] and entertained like two emperors. The landlord [123] has ordered an apartment to be prepared for your [124] reception; and the fumes from the kitchen, I assure [125] you, are most invitingly fragrant.

Huger.

[126] Then lead our horses hither, and [127] when you have seen *their* wants provided for, go [128] to the kitchen and satisfy your own.

*[Exeunt Huger and Bolman into hotel.]*

Walter.

[129] There's humanity with a vengeance; [130] to think of the wants of a four-footed brute in [131] preference of a two-legged Christian. Never [132] mind, if I can only discover the retreat of my [133] dear Annette, I shall consider myself amply repaid [134] for all the inconveniencies of this journey, [135] even if am compelled to go hungry a few hours: [136] for, in both cases, the pleasure of gratification will [137] be wonderfully heightened by the keenness of the [138] appetite.

*[Exit.]*

Scene II.

*—An apartment in the chateau.*

*Enter Ellen and Rosara.*

Rosara.

[1] So, cousin Ellen, you have left your [2] heart in Vienna, in the custody of a stranger; [3] and not only a stranger, but a foreigner; and not [4] only a foreigner, but a being from the new world,

[Page 10]

[5] an American! What do you think he has done [6] with it by this time?

Ellen.

[7] Locked it safely up in a breast which [8] I am certain is the shrine of honour and every [9] manly virtue.

Rosara.

[10] Is it then decreed that those saucy [11] republicans shall always compel royalists, whether [12] male or female, to surrender at discretion?

Ellen.

[13] No, Rosara; for in this case there was [14] no surrender on either side, but only an overture [15] for an exchange of prisoners. What if I have [16] received his heart in return, cousin?

Rosara.

[17] Then you have adopted a bad figure; [18] an exchange of *hostages* would have been much [19] better. But what reason have you to flatter yourself [20] that you have affected his heart at all, when [21] you never met but once, and then in a ball-room?

Ellen.

[22] O I have sufficient reason; for though [23] we scarcely exchanged a dozen words, he gave [24] me a thousand of the sweetest glances from a pair [25] of eyes that "taught the torches to burn bright," [26] as the great English poet says.

Rosara.

[27] You are a desperate gamester, cousin [28] Ellen, to stake your heart on no better security [29] than a few tender glances from a pair of bright [30] eyes.

Ellen.

[31] To deal ingenuously with you, cousin, [32] I do not believe that my heart is really gone past [33] recovery: but when he visits Olmutz I will not [34] promise to answer for it.

Rosara.

[35] Were the dozen words he spoke to [36] you framed into an engagement of that kind?

Ellen.

[37] O no—for he is, unfortunately, as ignorant [38] of my place of residence as he is of my name. [39] You must know, that on the day after the ball, his

[\[Page 11\]](#)

[40] servant sought an acquaintance with my waiting [41] woman, to whom he began to make love, for no [42] other purpose, as I have reason to suspect, but to [43] learn some particulars respecting your humble [44] servant. Owing to the provoking shrewdness of [45] Annette, however, the fellow learned nothing, and [46] told every thing.

Rosara.

[47] Why do you term her shrewdness provoking, [48] when it furnished you with the information [49] you wanted?

Ellen.

[50] How can you be so dull, Rosara? She [51] ought certainly to have let slip the words Lohrstein [52] and Olmutz. I was so angry with her that I discharged [53] her on the spot, and sent her home to her [54] father by the next conveyance. Have you seen [55] her since?

Rosara.

[56] Yes—but she pretends to be ignorant [57] of the cause of her dismissal.

Ellen.

[58] And so she is, for I took care not to let [59] her know it.

Rosara.

[60] Were you not formally introduced to [61] this bright-eyed foreigner?

Ellen.

[62] There was the source of all the mischief, [63] cousin. Our uncle is so partial to the two baptismal [64] names which he gave me, that he always [65] forgets that of Lohrstein. The probability is, [66] therefore, that Huger believes me to be the daughter [67] of Baron de Bevern.

Rosara.

[68] If you were so anxious to communicate [69] your father's name and place of residence, [70] why did you not, instead of dismissing your woman, [71] instruct her to see her new lover again, and tell [72] him the important secret?

Ellen.

[73] That is the step I ought to have taken: [74] but while I was debating the matter in my mind I

[Page 12]

[75] learned that the amiable stranger had left Vienna [76] accompanied by a particular friend, on a long [77] and indefinite tour.

Rosara.

[78] What is the amount of the information [79] communicated by his servant to Annette?

Ellen.

[80] Not much. That his name is Francis [81] Huger, son of some brave Colonel who perished [82] in the late contest for his country's Independence. [83] That he and his friend are on a tour of pleasure [84] and observation, and that they generally travel [85] under assumed characters, and finally, that they [86] intended to take the city of Olmutz in their rout. [87] That, I believe, is all.

Rosara.

[88] And when he comes, you expect to [89] renew your acquaintance?

Ellen.

[90] I rather *hope* than *expect* it, Rosara; [91] and if my hope be realized, depend upon it you [92] lose your cousin, or rather gain a new one.

Rosara.

[93] What think you my uncle, the general, [94] will say to this new attachment of his daughter? [95] You know he is a very strict disciplinarian, [96] and will not readily overlook the disobedience of [97] a subaltern, much less ratify a treaty negotiated [98] without his authority.

Ellen.

[99] My father loves me, Rosara, and will [100] never refuse his consent to what will secure my [101] happiness. Besides, you know how warmly his [102] heart has ever been interested in the American [103] cause, how partial he is to the inhabitants of that [104] happy country, and how much he respects his noble [105] prisoner, who fought for their independence [106] by the side of Washington?

Rosara.

[107] But are you not aware that he has [108] other views in the disposal of his daughter?

Ellen.

[109] You allude to old Syndicus Bribenberg.

[Page 13]

[110] the supreme magistrate, whom my father once [111] mentioned as my future husband; but I then [112] evinced such strong symptoms of unfeigned disgust [113] at the idea, that he has never since suggested [114] it.

Rosara.

[115] Yes he has.

Ellen.

[116] Not to me.

Rosara.

[117] No—but during your absence, Bribenberg [118] has had frequent interviews with my uncle [119] on the subject.

Ellen.

[120] To no purpose, however, depend upon [121] it. But I have not yet inquired for the gallant [122] and faithful Leopold. I hope you have contrived [123] to see him during the absence of your mother.

Rosara.

[124] Of that be assured. But, hush! my [125] mother is coming. I will tell you all about it, as [126] we proceed to the castle.

*Enter Countess and Paulina.*

Countess.

[127] So, I have kept you waiting, it [128] seems. Well, it cannot be helped, for I am not [129] quite so expeditious at the toilet as I was at your [130] age. But now I am ready, and I presume my [131] brother is anxiously expecting us at the castle. [132] Paulina, attend me. Come, young ladies, let [133] us be gone.

[*Exeunt Countess and Paulina.*]

Rosara.

[134] Now, mum! Not a word of Leopold, [135] in my mother's hearing.

Ellen.

[136] And mum! Not a single word of the [137] young American in my father's hearing.

Scene III.

*An apartment in the hotel. Walter discovered at dinner, talking to himself as he cats*

Walter.

[1] Talk of wonderful inventions—what [2] is printing, or gunpowder, or the reformation, or

[Page 14]

[3] coffee-mills, or steam-boats, or any thing else, in [4] comparison with this inimitable art? They tell us [5] of Columbus, and the new world, and gardeners, [6] and circumnavigators, and discovery-ships. But [7] give me the gardener who first invented *eating*, [8] and the navigator who first discovered wine, and [9] proved its virtue. The first I believe was Adam, [10] and the latter, Noah. Well, if my master Hug— [11] Francis, I mean, relishes his dinner, as well as I [12] do mine—here's his health. His name is a secret, [13] locked up safely here; but I must keep it wet, or [14] it may pop out in a breath.

[*drinks.*]

Here comes [15] my worthy host, his name is Wormsberg, and he [16] has already been trying to worm into my secret; [17] but let me give it another wetting and I defy him.

*Enter Wormsberg.*

[18] Landlord, consider this as your health.

[*drinks.*]

Wormsberg.

[19] Thank you, honest friend. I [20] hope you have dined well.

Walter.

[21] O yes, I always dine well, that is, when [22] I have any thing to eat.

Wormsberg.

[23] I presume that your master does [24] not often permit you to fast on that account. You [25] find him generous, do you not?

Walter.

[26] Consider yourself astonished—my [27] master is a prince.

Wormsberg.

[28] A prince?

Walter.

[29] Yes, sir—the prince of—

[*drinks.*]

Wormsberg.

[30] Of what?

Walter.

[31] The prince of good fellows—and his [32] friend, the doctor, is what I consider a ditto. [33] Here's their health.

Wormsberg.

[34] A ditto! What title is that?

Walter.

[35] Another prince, to be sure. I dare

[Page 15]

[36] say there will be plenty of dittos in your bill. Consider [37] yourself saluted.

[drinks.

Wormsberg.

[38] But why do they travel?

Walter.

[39] Why do they travel! Now, landlord, [40] that's a very simple question. What do people [41] generally travel for, but to remove from one place [42] to another?

Wormsberg.

[43] Your shrewdness still evades my [44] inquiry. I wish to learn their object.

Walter.

[45] Well then, they travel in search of [46] health and wealth. There's *rhyme* if no *reason*.

Wormsberg.

[47] Health and wealth!

Walter.

[48] Yes, sir: my master wants health, and [49] the doctor wants money—and the latter want, [50] is, I believe, the only dangerous complaint with [51] which physicians are ever troubled.

Wormsberg.

[52] Why do you term it a *dangerous*[53] complaint?

Walter.

[54] Dangerous only to their patient's [55] purses. Consider yourself answered.

Wormsberg.

[56] Well, if your master swallows [57] drugs as greedily as he does roast beef, his friend, [58] the doctor, can have no reason to complain. I [59] think I never saw an invalid with so fine an appetite.

Walter.

[60] Consider that, sir, as the peculiar characteristic [61] symptoms of his disorder—a superabundance [62] of appetite—and he is travelling to get rid [63] of it.

Wormsberg.

[64] A very singular malady.

Walter.

[65] I consider it so, sir—and am under serious [66] apprehensions that it is contagious—for ever [67] since I have been in his service, I have felt a wonderful [68] increase of appetite, accompanied with one [69] alarming additional symptom.

Wormsberg.

[70] And pray what is that?

[Page 16]

Walter.

[71] An inclination to moisten every mouthful [72] I eat. Sir, my service to you.

[drinks.]

Now [73] consider yourself satisfied.

(bell rings)

. Hark! [74] you are wanted in my master's apartment.

Wormsberg.

[75] Coming, sir.

[Exit Wormsberg.]

Walter.

[76] So far without blabbing. My discretion [77] certainly deserves credit, and so I'll treat it [78] to another bumper. Here's the heart that conceals, [79] and the tongue that never reveals.

[drinks.

Enter

Annette,

*unperceived.*

[80] Now I doubt if Huger ever tasted such wine as [81] this in the other world.

Annette.

[82] Huger! O, your servant sir—that [83] was your master's name in Vienna.

Walter.

[84] Annette, as I am a sinner. Consider [85] your appearance astonishing. How came you in [86] Olmutz, and where is your mistress?

Annette.

[87] How came *you* in Olmutz, and where [88] is your master?

Walter.

[89] Answer my question first. I had my [90] ears pulled for not making that bargain with you [91] before.

Annette.

[92] And I suspect I lost my place for the [93] same reason.

Walter.

[94] Then you left lady Ellen in Vienna?

Annette.

[95] Then you left Mr. Huger in Vienna?

Walter.

[96] Let us change the subject, for my [97] head is not exactly so clear as it might be, as this [98] house affords nothing to exhilarate one's spirits.

Annette.

[99] So I should conclude from appearances. [100] But what subject shall we start?

Walter.

[101] Love—love is the game I wish to [102] start and run down. Consider yourself the object.

Annette.

[103] Take care you do not *fall* down in [104] the chase.

[Page 17]

Walter.

[105] Consider yourself mistaken, if you [106] think I am elevated, for I am now only about half [107] up. Before you came in, I was below zero—but [108] the sunshine of your eyes raised me suddenly to [109] fever heat—and if you will indulge me with one [110] kiss, I shall instantly mount up to where spirits [111] boil. Come, give me a kiss.

Annette.

[112] On one condition I will.

Walter.

[113] Name it, thou bright queen of my affections, [114] for at this moment I love you better than [115] ——better than—

Annette.

[116] Champaign or Tokay.

Walter.

[117] That would be saying a great deal. [118] But come, be quick and name your condition, or [119] I shall become as cool as a cucumber, and then [120] your comparison will be absurd.

Annette.

[121] Answer me three questions, without [122] the least equivocation.

Walter.

[123] O the artful hussy! But Jove laughs [124] at lover's perjuries.

*(aside.)*

Yes, I swear by those [125] bright eyes and pouting lips, that I will answer [126] your three questions.

Annette.

[127] Without equivocation?

Walter.

[128] Yes, yes—come, hold up your bill.

Annette.

[129] Not till you answer my questions. [130] When did you arrive in Olmutz?

Walter.

[131] Not two hours ago.

Annette.

[132] Where has your master taken lodgings?

Walter.

[133] In this very house—you'll find his [134] name on the register.

Annette.

[135] How long does he propose staying?

Walter.

[136] About a month. Now, my little rosebud, [137] consider your questions answered, and fulfil [138] your part of the contract.

[Page 18]

Annette.

[139] If this intelligence does not restore [140] me to favour with lady Ellen, I am egregiously [141] mistaken in her character.

*(aside.)*

Walter.

[142] Come, your conditions are complied with.

Annette.

*(kissing her hand to him.)*

[143] There, consider [144] yourself saluted, and look out for you ears [145] again.

Walter.

[146] Here, stop a moment—the most important [147] question which you ought to have asked, I [148] will answer gratis.

Annette.

[149] What is that?

Walter.

[150] My former master, who pulled my [151] ears for trusting to a chamber-maid's promises, is [152] now on the road to France.

Annette.

[153] What! Are you not still in the service [154] of Mr. Huger?

Walter.

[155] Do you think, now, that I would continue [156] in the service of a man who pulled my ears? [157] No, Annette, consider me more of a man. I am [158] now in the service of Mr. Francis.

Annette.

[159] Then I must be content to remain a [160] bar-maid in my father's inn.

Walter.

[161] Your father's inn! O then I can easily [162] account for your catechetical propensity. And [163] are you really the daughter of my worthy host?

Annette.

[164] I am.

Walter.

[165] Then marry me, and we will carry on [166] the business ourselves, You wont, ha? Well, fulfil [167] your promise, and I will name the very time, [168] within fifteen minutes, when Mr. Huger will pay [169] his respects to the governor of Olmutz Castle. [170] For, notwithstanding I left him on the road to [171] France, I know that he will shortly be here.

Annette.

[172] Well—there—s

*(he salutes her.)*

Walter.

[173] Nectar, by the power of claret.

#### [Page 19]

Annette.

[174] When will Mr. Huger, the young [175] American, pay his respects to the governor of [176] Olmutz Castle?

Walter.

[177] Within fifteen minutes of the time [178] that he enters the fortress, unless the general be [179] particularly engaged. But when he will enter the [180] fortress, I cannot pretend to say.

Annette.

[181] Diamond cut diamond.

Walter.

[182] Then let us unite our wits to cut a [183] figure in the world. What say you—shall a clerical [184] rivet convert us into a pair of scissors?

Annette.

[185] I must take time to consider, and so [186] farewell.

Walter.

[187] Stay! I have a trinket of yours on [188] which you affected to set great value in Vienna. [189] Answer me one question, without equivocation, [190] and I will instantly restore it.

Annette.

[191] I know not what trinket I have lost, [192] but propose your question.

Walter.

[193] At this moment, to the best of your [194] knowledge, where is the lady whom you served [195] in Vienna?

Annette.

[196] In her aunt's chateau, across the [197] street. She arrived from Vienna this morning. [198] How for the trinket.

Walter.

[199] The trinket I alluded to is the kiss [200] you have just granted me, which I thus restore. [201]

(salutes her.)

Now you may go.

Annette.

[202] I'll pay you for this before you leave [203] the *Three Swans*; see if I don't.

[Exit.

Walter.

[204] Let it be in the same coin, then. Now [205] after this, who will doubt the efficacy of wine in [206] preserving secrets? I have learned all I wished, [207] and communicated nothing. Now for my master, [208] to inform him that his mistress sleeps within fifty [209] yards of his own bed.

[Exit.

[Page 20]

#### Scene IV.

*A street leading to the castle; a sentinel on duty in front of the entrance.*

*Enter Huger and Bolman.*

Bolman.

[1] Yes, my friend, such is too often the [2] fate of virtue and patriotism in these degenerate [3] times. Mark you the frowning battlements of [4] yonder fortress?

Huger.

[5] The castle of Olmutz.

Bolman.

[6] The same. Mark it well—for within [7] yonder gloomy walls, has a patriot and a hero, [8] whom *you* ought to revere, dragged out several [9] miserable years of solitary confinement. He was [10] the fellow-soldier of your illustrious Washington [11] in the glorious cause of liberty. In the bloom of [12] youth he tore himself from the fascinations of a [13] licentious court, to encounter danger and fatigue [14] beneath the banners of your native country.

Huger.

[15] You mean the brave La Fayette.

Bolman.

[16] I do. After assisting in the emancipation [17] of your countrymen from foreign thralldom, [18] he took an active part in the liberation of [19] his own from domestic tyranny—but when success [20] had crowned his efforts, he found himself hunted [21] and proscribed by those who had once pretended [22] to idolize him: but who now no longer stood in [23] need of his assistance. He was at length driven [24] by the ingratitude of his own countrymen, to seek [25] an asylum among his enemies, by whom he was [26] seized as a traitor, and delivered up to the emperor [27] of Germany, who ordered him into close confinement [28] in yonder gloomy edifice.

Huger.

[29] Have no exertions been made in his [30] behalf?

Bolman.

[31] Petitions for his release have been presented [32] from all quarters: even your beloved Washington

[Page 21]

[33] has written to the emperor on the subject, [34] but Francis remains inexorable.

Huger.

[35] Then shall stratagem effect what justice [36] and humanity have in vain demanded. Fayette shall [37] regain his liberty, or I lose my own in the attempt.

Bolman.

[38] There burst forth that patriotic American [39] spirit which it has been my aim to awaken. It was [40] for this

alone, Huger, that I have singled you out [41] from all the world as my friend; it was for this that [42] we have travelled in our assumed characters, in order [43] to lull suspicion asleep; and it is for this that we [44] have now visited Olmutz.

Huger.

[45] And for this, I presume, the Post-Master [46] at Bautrapp was ordered to keep the chaise and [47] horses waiting our orders. But why did you not [48] sooner intrust me with the secret?

Bolman.

[49] Because I thought your sympathy and [50] enthusiasm would be more effectually aroused in his [51] behalf on this very spot, and I cannot express the [52] pleasure I feel in finding that I was not mistaken.

Huger.

[53] Then you have been in this place before.

Bolman.

[54] An anxious wish to be of service to a [55] hero who has so signalized himself in the cause of [56] liberty, has long been the ruling passion of my soul. [57] At length I yielded to the impulse of enthusiasm, and [58] travelled hither on foot, from my native place in Hanover, [59] for the purpose of acquiring such information as [60] might enable me to judge of the best means for effecting [61] my purpose.

Huger.

[62] Enthusiasm in such a cause deserves a [63] holier name. What was the result?

Bolman.

[64] I soon found that, without an able coadjutor, [65] the difficulties which presented themselves [66] were insurmountable. I therefore assiduously sought [67] the acquaintance and confidence of every young [68] American to whom I could obtain an introduction; [69] for I was not ignorant of the reverence which your [70] brave countrymen cherish for the character of this [71] persecuted hero. But until I had the good fortune

[Page 22]

[72] to meet with *you*, at Vienna, I had not been able to [73] select a suitable companion for the hazardous enterprise.

Huger.

[74] Give me your hand. The incidents of [75] our recent tour have convinced me that you are the [76] man, of all others, with whom I would be proud to [77] be associated in any honourable enterprise that demands [78] courage and discretion united. But in *this*[79] one, I feel an ardour at least equal to your own; for [80] though I never saw La Fayette but once, and that when [81] a child, yet never can his manly image be erased from [82] my memory.

Bolman.

[83] I recollect you have told me that your [84] father's roof was the first that afforded him shelter on [85] his arrival in America. That incident must have [86] made a deep impression on your tender mind.

Huger.

[87] It did so. But now to business. Our first [88] object must be to make La Fayette acquainted with [89] our intentions, and learn his sentiments on the subject [90] before we proceed.

Bolman.

[91] You are correct. But how can this object [92] be safely effected?

Huger.

[93] In all cases where there is a great disparity [94] of force against them, it is the maxim of my [95] countrymen to resort to *stratagem*; and I have just [96] thought of one which cannot fail of success.

Bolman.

[97] Name it.

Huger.

[98] I will explain as we go along. It is now [99] the hour which our host recommended as the most [100] likely to obtain admittance at the castle. See! the [101] gates unclose to our wish. Ha! four female prisoners [102]

liberated.

*Enter from the castle, Countess, Ellen, Rosara, Paulina. General Lorchstein appears in the portal taking leave of them.*

Huger.

[103] Either my eyes are traitors to my heart, [104] or that sylph—Bolman—look there—'tis she—'tis [105] Ellen herself!

[Page 23]

Bolman.

[106] Let not your raptures banish discretion. [107] You have already pronounced *my* name, and may betray [108] your own.

Huger.

[109] Pardon me. This sudden surprise—

Bolman.

[110] You must be prepared to encounter still [111] more sudden surprises, in an enterprise like ours. [112] Surely you do not intend to accost her?

Huger.

[113] Worlds would not tempt me to forego that [114] pleasure.

Bolman.

[115] Do you consider the consequences? Have [116] you forgotten La Fayette?

Huger.

[117] How can my speaking to that angel affect [118] our enterprise.

Bolman.

[119] She knows your real character.

Huger.

[120] But not my real name.

Bolman.

[121] Are you certain.

Huger.

[122] Most positive. But here she comes, I [123] will introduce you, and then you must engage the [124] others in conversation, while I breathe my soul into [125] the ear of Ellen.

*(The gentlemen stand on one side of the stage, and the ladies come down on the other.)*

Rosara.

[126] Are you sure it is he?

Ellen.

[127] Can the eye of love be deceived? Do [128] you not mark his manly form, his graceful demeanour, [129] and the ardour with which he gazes on me? Your [130] mother is unacquainted with his real name, and pray [131] do not betray it.

Huger.

*(advancing.)*

[132] If this presumption surprise [133] you, attribute it to my once having been honoured [134] with this sweet hand in a minuet at Vienna. [135]

*(To Ellen, taking her hand.)*

The transport of this [136] moment repays the weeks of misery I have endured [137] since that delightful evening. Ellen.

[138] Sir, you are welcome to Olmutz. My [139] aunt, the countess of Steinberg, and her daughter, [140] Rosara.

This, ladies, is Mr.—What is your travelling [141] name?

[Page 24]

Huger.

[142] Heavens! Does she suspect!

*(aside.)*

[143] Can you have forgotten Francis, the name of your [144] imperial monarch?

Ellen.

[145] Mr. Francis, the American gentleman of [146] whom you have heard me speak. But you forget [147] your friend.

Huger.

[148] I forget every thing in your presence. [149] Doctor Rehberg, permit me to make you acquainted [150] with the three graces. Miss Ellen—what is [151] your travelling name?

Ellen.

[152] Can you have forgotten De Bevern, the [153] name of your noble host in Vienna?

Huger.

[154] Miss Ellen de Bevern, her cousin, the fair [155] Rosara; and her aunt, the lovely countess of Steinberg.

*(Huger and Ellen converse apart).*

Countess.

[156] How polite!

*(aside)*

. Gentlemen, we [157] shall be proud of your acquaintance. My niece has [158] certainly an excellent taste. What a pity it is, that [159] such an amiable gallant is doomed to live and die [160] without a title.

*[aside.*

Bolman.

[161] Ladies, you do us much honour; but [162] please inform us if it be as easy for gentlemen to gain [163] admission to that fortress, as it was for you ladies to [164] effect your escape from it?

Countess.

[165] O yes, sir, your sentinel will announce [166] you, and the gentility of your appearance will [167] gain you instant admission.

Bolman.

[168] A thousand thanks, dear madam.

*(Converses apart with the Countess and Rosara.)*

Ellen.

[169] And have you really bestowed so many [170] thoughts on one with whom you are so little acquainted? [171] How do you know that I am worthy of them?

Huger.

[172] Do I not know that unworthiness was never [173] enshrined in such an angelic form? Your eyes, [174] your voice, your shape, your air—all, all conspire to [175] convince me that I am not deceived. I will risk my [176] fortune, my heart, my peace, my life, on the sweet [177] conviction.

Ellen.

[178] You hazard much.

[Page 25]

Huger.

[179] What can I hazard in loving, in adoring, [180] such virtues and graces as are combined in the person [181] of Ellen de Bevern. Nay, I understand that [182] frown. You deem it presumptuous for an untitled individual [183] thus to address the daughter of a German [184] Baron.

Ellen.

[185] There you wrong me, Francis; for, indeed, [186] I do not. But what reply can you expect me to [187] make to your professions?

Huger.

[188] Say that my love shall meet return; that [189] you prefer virtue to rank; that your affections are [190] not engaged to another; at least tell me that there [191] is room to hope.

Ellen.

[192] If the assurance that my affections are disengaged, [193] will contribute to your happiness, take it; [194] but for the rest: while there is life, there is always [195] room to hope.

Huger.

[196] A thousand thanks for that, dear girl. [197] But you can increase my present felicity by telling [198] me what particular mansion in Olmutz has the honour [199] of holding so fair an inmate, and how long Vienna will [200] be doomed to mourn your absence?

Ellen.

[201] I presume, gallant sir, that Vienna will [202] hardly miss me. For the present I find a home with [203] my aunt, the countess of Steinberg. Should you call [204] at the chateau, I entertain no doubt that she would [205] treat you with civility.

Countess.

*(to the sentinel.)*

[206] Conduct these gentlemen [207] to my brother, the general, and tell him that I [208] recommend them to his particular attention.

Bolman.

[209] Ladies, accept our thanks, and benevolent [210] wishes.

Huger.

[211] Farewell, bright excellence. Fair Rosara, [212] and beautiful Countess, adieu.

**Huger and Bolman enter the castle, attended by the sergeant.]**

Countess.

[213] Now I wish our German gallants would [214] visit the new world, to improve their manners. "Lovely [\[Page 26\]](#)

[215] Countess:" "Beautiful Countess:" I have not [216] heard those delightful terms for half a dozen years. [217] If that youth had a title, Ellen, I should fall in love [218] with him myself.

Ellen.

[219] Then I rejoice that he has none; for what [220] could I hope with the "beautiful Countess of Steinberg" [221] for a rival?

Countess.

[222] O you flatterer. But come, it will be [223] sundown before we reach the chateau.

Rosara.

[224] We attend you. Well, cousin, what is [225] the state of your heart now?

Ellen.

[226] Gone, past redemption.

*[Exeunt.]*

END OF ACT I.

## ACT II.

### Scene I.

*A prison in the castle of Olmutz. Fayette discovered sitting at a table, reading.*

Fayette.

[1] Sweet solace of my afflictions, with what [2] gratitude I enjoy thy benign influence. [3]

*(Lays down the book, and comes forward.)*

Torn from the arms [4] of wife and children; deprived of liberty and society, [5] and goaded by the most agonizing reflections, I might, [6] ere this, have degenerated into misanthropy, but for [7] the luxury of this indulgence, for which I am indebted [8] to the benevolent Lohrstein. O liberty! bright goddess [9] of my idolatry! With what fidelity have I [10] worshipped at thy shrine! With what devotion have [11] I laboured in thy cause! and what sacrifices have I [12] not made to establish thy supremacy! And this is [13] my reward! From any other hands, the blow had [14] been harmless; but from Frenchmen! my brethren! [15] once associated with me in the sacred cause of liberty; [16] men who looked up to me for counsel, as to a prophet [17] or a god; who moved at my directions, and paused [18] at my signal, until their sublimest ends were attained: [19] to meet with ingratitude from them, is the bitter reflection [20] that eternally haunts me, driving peace from [21] my bosom by day, and frightening rest from my pillow

[Page 27]

[22] by night. High Heaven is my witness that I [23] have never shed a tear for my own fate; but for [24] my misguided unhappy countrymen, I am doomed to [25] mourn without hope.

*Enter Lohrstein, with a book.*

Lohrstein.

[26] Good morning, marquis.

Fayette.

[27] Good morning, general. This daily favour, [28] my dear sir, together with the many other courtesies [29] I receive at your hands, inspires a gratitude in [30] my bosom, which I want language to express.

Lohrstein.

[31] Then pray don't attempt it. I am an [32] old soldier, and as the camp has been my only school, [33] I am somewhat rough and unpolished in my manners. [34] But if I can, now and then, let fall a drop or two of [35] consolation into the bitter cup of captivity, without [36] injuring my master, I feel myself sufficiently recompensed. [37] How have you passed the night.

Fayette.

[38] As usual, general: the daily excursion [39] which you permit me to enjoy on the plain, has already [40] produced a very favourable change in my [41] health. What news abroad?

Lohrstein.

[42] Nothing worthy your ear.

Fayette.

[43] Any intelligence, however trifling, is music [44] to the ear of a prisoner.

Lohrstein.

[45] My daughter arrived yesterday from [46] Vienna, where she has been residing several months [47] with her maternal uncle, Baron de Bevern.

Fayette.

[48] Permit me to congratulate you on so felicitous [49] a meeting. It is a happiness of which I have [50] been long deprived: which I despair of ever again [51] enjoying.

*(dejectedly.)*

Lohrstein.

[52] The first question she asked, on entering [53] the castle, was concerning the health of the noble [54] Fayette.

Fayette.

[55] A thousand thanks to the fair Ellen. Could [56] any thing render confinement tolerable, it would be [57] the sympathy of such a being.

Lohrstein.

[58] My daughter, sir, was not the only one [59] who yesterday expressed an interest in your fate.

[Page 28]

[60] Two strangers, a physician and his patient, who have [61] just arrived at Olmutz, visited the castle last evening. [62] During their survey of the fortress. I accidentally [63] mentioned your name, which led to a long conversation; [64] and in less than an hour after their departure [65] I received a note from them, accompanied [66] with this volume, which they requested me to hand [67] you, as an antidote to the effects of solitude. On the [68] first blank leaf you will find a complimentary note [69] addressed to yourself.

Fayette.

[70] Did you learn their names?

Lohrstein.

[71] You will see their signatures; Doctor [72] Rehberg, and a Mr. Francis whom I suspect, from [73] his accent, to be an Englishman.

Fayette.

[74] Whoever they be should they visit the [75] castle again, be pleased to thank them for me, general.

Lohrstein.

[76] They requested leave to return this [77] day, when they expected to learn your opinion of [78] the contents of that volume.

*Enter a servant.*

Servant.

[79] Mr. Bribenberg, the supreme magistrate, [80] sir, requests to be favoured with an interview.

Lohrstein.

[81] I will wait on him immediately. Good [82] morning, marquis. Captain Leopold will attend [83] you on the plain to-day.

Fayette.

[84] Farewell, general, until we meet again.

*[Exeunt Lohrstein and servant.]*

La Fayette.

*(reads)*

[85] "To the marquis de la Fayette: [86] Sir, you will please pardon the liberty we have taken; [87] but as we wish, *in any way*, to contribute to your [88] happiness, we hope you will *attentively* read the book [89] we have sent for your persual, and if any passages in [90] it should *particularly* engage your attention, we request [91] that you will make us acquainted with *your*[92] *opinion.*" Signed, "Rheberg, Francis." This is [93] not expressed in the usual mode of complimentary [94] letters, and certain words are underscored as emphatical.

[Page 29]

[95]

*(Reads)*

*"any way" "attentively" "particularly"*[96] *"your opinion."* Something more must be [97] meant than meets the eye, but where am I to look for [98] a key to the mystery. I *will* read the book *"attentively,"* [99] and that perhaps will throw some light upon [100] the subject. It has already been critically read, I [101] perceive by the pencil marks in the margin, and yet [102] these marks appear to be wholly unconnected with [103] the text. Let me see. What if these solitary words [104] and syllables are intended to be associated? But [105] where to begin? [106]

*[He turns over the leaves, pronouncing one word or syllable for every leaf.]*

[107] Our—real— [108] names—are—Huger—and—Bolman—the former an [109]

Ameri—can—the—latter—a—Han—o—ve—rian— [110] We—have—formed—a—plan—for—effecting—your [111] —escape—if—you—acquiesce—express—your—approbation [112] —of—the—book—We—will—then—ex— [113] plain—our—plan—in—the—same—way.”— [114] Peace, foolish fluttering heart! and let not a dream of [115] liberty thus agitate thee. What will be thy sensations [116] should this budding hope attain fruition? I must [117] pace these fretted floors awhile to recover my composure.

[*Exit, musing.*

## Scene II.

*An apartment in the castle—Enter Lohrstein and Bribenberg.*

Bribenberg.

[1] Give me leave to tell you, general, [2] that this repulse is what I had no right to expect.

Lohrstein.

[3] You mistake me, sir. I repeat what I [4] have always told you, that I will not control my [5] daughter's inclinations on a point in which her future [6] happiness is so nearly concerned. You have free access [7] to her—win her affections, and take her with all [8] my heart, and half my fortune.

Bribenberg.

[9] But are not the advantages of such an [10] alliance sufficiently obvious to induce you to exercise [11] your authority over her? You know, general, that [12] girls of her age do not always know their own minds, [13] and it is the duty of a parent—

Lohrstein.

[14] Pardon me, Mr. Bribenberg; if I do not

[[Page 30](#)]

[15] already know the duty of a parent, I am now too old [16] to learn it; so, if you please, we will drop the subject. Brib.

[17] One word more, sir, and I have done. Independent [18] of all selfish considerations, I have stronger [19] reasons than you, perhaps, are aware of, for soliciting [20] your consent to my proposition. What would be [21] your feelings should you be told that your daughter [22] has already formed an attachment, and is now contemplating [23] a matrimonial alliance that would disgrace [24] herself and family?

Lohrstein.

[25] My feelings would be such as would [26] prompt me instantly to chastise the base calumniator; [27] for I know that Ellen Lohrstein will never bestow her [28] heart on a fool or a villain.

Bribenberg.

[29] I did not intimate such a thing, general. [30] But what are wisdom and integrity, without rank [31] or fortune?

Lohrstein.

[32] Permit me to transpose the question, [33] and ask what is rank or fortune, without wisdom and [34] integrity?

Bribenberg.

[35] Believe me, dear general, when I assure [36] you, that nothing but a scrupulous regard for the [37] honour of your family, emboldens me to speak upon [38] this delicate subject. But there are reports abroad [39] with which I feel it my duty to make you acquainted. [40] Your daughter's late waiting woman, whom she dismissed [41] at Vienna, has informed me that a young [42] foreign adventurer, who was introduced to her mistress [43] at Baron de Bevern's—

Lohrstein.

[44] Enough, my old friend, I will not put [45] you to the trouble of entering into particulars, for I [46] shall soon learn them all from my own daughter. In [47] the mean time, rest assured, that whether foreigner [48] or native, prince or peasant, I apprehend no degradation [49] from an alliance with one who is honoured [50] with the acquaintance of Baron de Bevern. Besides, [51] sir, being myself only a soldier of fortune, and having [52] fought my way from obscurity and poverty to rank

[[Page 31](#)]

[53] and wealth. I entertain a certain fellow-feeling for [54] those I left in the rear guard. You understand me.  
Bribenberg.

[55] But, my dear general, the person to [56] whom I allude is an American.  
Lohrstein.

[57] So much the better, my dear Syndicus, [58] for then he must be brave and generous. Enter the [59] lists with him on equal terms, without engaging me as [60] an ally, and Ellen shall be the arbiter of the contest, [61] and the reward of the victor.

Bribenberg.

[62] Permit me to observe, general, that [63] the supreme magistrate of Olmutz, did not expect to [64] be placed on a footing with an untitled foreigner.

Lohrstein.

[65] The lower you estimate your rival sir, [66] the greater ought to be your hopes of success. At [67] any rate, you have no right to complain. He remains [68] at Vienna, and you have now the field to yourself.

Bribenberg.

[69] Of which one word from you, would [70] make me master. Our ancient friendship, general—  
Lohrstein.

[71] Renders me zealous for your success, [72] but sad experience has taught me a lesson on this [73] subject which I shall not soon forget. Whatever be [74] my dear Ellen's decision, it shall be consecrated by [75] a father's blessing.

Bribenberg.

[76] Well general, I must submit, and so [77] good morning.

Lohrstein.

[78] Good morning, sir, but remember that [79] we still are friends.

*[Exeunt, on opposite sides.]*

### Scene III.

*The chateau and hotel, as in the first scene of Act I—Enter Leopold from the hotel.*

Leopold.

[1] Curse this detention! the hour is past, [2] and the fair Rosara's signal is vainly fluttering from [3] her window. Now for another stolen interview with [4] my faithful charmer, and then to duty again. But, [5] soft! the door opens! Perhaps the countess is but [6] now departing. This column will screen me until she [7] passes.  
*(retires.)*

*Enter Huger and Annette, from the chateau.*

Huger.

[8] Thanks are but empty words; there—

[\[Page 32\]](#)

[9] that will procure you a ribbon to wear at your lady's [10] nuptials.

Annette.

[11] I shall be grateful, sir, depend upon it, and [12] sincerely wish that I might display one on that occasion [13] to-morrow.

Huger.

[14] And why not to-day, Annette?

Annette.

[15] Because Lady Rosara—here, step [16] this way, and I will tell you.

*[They retire up.]*

Leopold.

[17] Lady Rosara! what does this mean, and [18] who can this stranger be? But stay—I will hear [19] more.

*[retires.]*

Huger.

[20] From that window? I shall not fail to time [21] my visits accordingly; and recollect, Annette, that it [22] was Walter's influence which reinstated you in your [23] lady's good graces.

Annette.

[24] O I am certain I shall not forget that. [25] Remember the signal.

*[Exit Annette into chateau.]*

Leopold.

[26] A word with you, sir, if you please.

Huger.

[27] Let it be a short one then, for I am in [28] haste.

Leopold.

[29] It comprises but two syllables. Villain!

Huger.

[30] It requires a still shorter answer. Draw.

*[They fight.]*

*Enter Bribenberg.*

Bribenberg.

[31] Hold! I command you, in the emperor's [32] name. What means this outrage on the public [33] peace?

Huger.

[34] You must inquire of that gentleman, sir, [35] for upon my soul, I am totally ignorant of the cause.

Brib.

[36] What have you to say, captain Leopold?

Leopold.

[37] Nothing; my quarrel is my own, and I [38] decline an explanation. Defend yourself!

Huger.

[39] My countrymen are never backward at [40] that. Come on.

*[They fight.]*

*Enter Ellen, from the chateau.*

Ellen.

[41] Leopold, for heaven's sake! Huger, for [42] my sake be reconciled to my friend Leopold.

Huger.

[43] Your friend, Ellen? Then is my sword [44] pointless.

[\[Page 33\]](#)

Ellen.

[45] Leopold, explain; what means this?

Leopold.

[46] He came from thence—was it not Rosara—

Ellen.

[47] O no—she waits for you, and will explain [48] all. Fly to her immediately.

Leopold.

[49] Whether as friends or foes, sir, we must [50] meet again.

Huger.

[51] With all my heart. I lodge at the Three [52] swans, yonder, where I shall be happy to see you [53] in either character.

*[Exit Leopold into chateau.]*

Ellen.

[54] My dear Francis, do I not tell you that [55] he is my friend—  
(*in a lower tone*)  
the lover of my [56] cousin.

[*they converse apart.*]

Brib.

(*aside.*)

[57] My dear Francis! This, then, is [58] my rival—a stranger in the city—and has broken the [59] peace already. At the Three Swans. Mr. Francis, [60] we meet again, when you may be made sensible [61] that there is danger in supplanting the chief-magistrate [62] of Olmutz in his affections.

Huger.

[63] Who is that ugly looking old gentleman [64] who commands the peace in the emperor's name.

Ellen.

[65] Mr. Bribenberg, the magistrate. Beware [66] of incurring his resentment, for his temper is none of [67] the mildest.

Huger.

[68] Then he and I are two congenial souls [69] that ought to be better acquainted. Sir, I should be [70] proud of your acquaintance.

Brib.

[71] Perhaps the time may come, sir, when you [72] wish will be gratified. Madam, good morning.

[*Exit Bribenberg.*]

Ellen.

[73] Good morning, Mr. Bribenberg. And [74] now, Francis, permit me to caution you once more, [75] beware of incurring the displeasure of that man.

Huger.

[76] Is he so dangerous a character? What [77] have I to apprehend from him?

Ellen.

[78] His resentments are terrible, and his power [79] is great. He has

(*hesitatingly*)

vainly solicited [80] his poor hand, and will never, perhaps, forgive [81] either of us.

[Page 34]

Huger.

[82] O, I perceive—a rival—then I forgive [83] him with all my heart; for were it my case—  
*Enter Bolman, hastily.*

Bolman.

[84] Your pardon, fair lady. Mr. Francis, as [85] soon as you are disengaged, I have a word for your [86] private ear.

Ellen.

[87] Good morning, gentlemen.

[*going.*]

Huger.

[88] Permit me— [89]

(*leads her to the door of the chateau, which she enters, and he returns.*)

[90] Now, my friend, what news?

Bolman.

[91] Our project is ripe, and this day restores [92] La Fayette to liberty.

Huger.

[93] You delight me. Explain.

Bolman.

[94] The marquis has returned this book, by [95] the unsuspecting Lohrstein, with an open letter in [96] which he expresses his thanks for our sympathy, and so [97] forth; and adds *emphatically*, that he is already familiar [98] with the work, approves it warmly, and is [99] charmed with its contents.

Huger.

[100] Good! What farther?

Bolman.

[101] He has made copious additions to our [102] marginal notes, the substance of which is this—the [103] marquis is every day permitted, for the benefit of [104] his health, to ride out upon the open plain, which, [105] you know, surrounds Olmutz, to the extent of about [106] three miles.

Huger.

[107] Strongly guarded, I presume.

Bolman.

[108] No—he is conveyed in an open cabriolet, [109] accompanied by only one officer, with an armed [110] soldier mounted behind. During these excursions, the [111] marquis and the officer are in the habit of quitting the [112] carriage, and walking together.

Huger.

[113] Then is our task a trifle. I can manage [114] the officer, and Walter will amuse the guard, while [115] you assist Fayette to mount upon a fleet courser, that [116] will bear him in safety beyond the frontier. And [117] then, when Fayette is once in safety, you will accompany [118] me back to witness my happiness in a [119] union with the lovely Ellen.

#### [Page 35]

Bolman.

[120] If we succeed, Olmutz must see us no [121] more.

Huger.

[122] Not return to Olmutz! Abandon the bliss [123] which awaits me in the arms of Ellen!

Bolman.

[124] And thereby escape the punishment that [125] will await us in the castle of Olmutz.

Huger.

[126] How shall we be recognised or known [127] in the business? Our assumed names and characters—

Bolman.

[128] Will not avail us. Our faces, at least, [129] are known to Lohrstein; and Ellen is—Alas! I [130] dare not inform him that she is Lohrstein's daughter, [131] lest it mar our glorious project.

(*aside.*)

Huger.

[132] Ellen is what?

Bolman.

[133] Only on a visit here. You may meet [134] her in safety at Vienna.

Huger.

[135] Pardon me, my friend, it was a momentary [136] weakness, and I am now a man again. I will instantly [137] inform Ellen that urgent business recalls us to [138] Vienna, where I hope to meet her, never more to part.

Bolman.

[139] Time will not permit, for here comes [140] Walter to inform us that the cabriolet is about leaving [141] the

fortress. Write to her from Trappaw.

*Enter Walter.*

Huger.

[142] Content. Where are our horses?

Walter.

[143] Consider them waiting for us beyond the [144] walls. The cabriolet will depart at twelve o'clock [145] precisely.

Bolman.

[146] Then we have not a moment to lose. [147] Let us not forget in whose cause we are engaged. [148] The friend of America—the friend of your father.

Huger.

[149] Enough! I am ready. Attend us Walter, [150] and prepare for our immediate departure.

*[Exeunt Bolman and Huger.]*

Walter.

[151] Consider me at your elbow;

*(aside.)*

that [152] is, after I have given Annette a farewell kiss.

*(Goes towards the chateau, when he is called by Huger from the hotel.)*

Walter.

[153] I am there, sir. Now if I could only catch [154] her eye from a window.

[\[Page 36\]](#)

Huger.

[155] Walter! I say.

Walter.

[156] Adieu Annette; dearly as I prize you [157] lips, I dare not risk my ears, for they are my own [158] blood relations. I am ready sir.

*[Exit into hotel.]*

Scene IV.

*An apartment in the chateau, as in Act I.*

*Enter Rosara and Leopold.*

Leopold.

[1] The mistake might have proved more [2] serious, but for the timely interposition of your cousin [3] Ellen. But why did Annette acquaint him with the [4] secret of our signal.

Rosara.

[5] For the mere pleasure of telling a secret, [6] I suppose. And so, you were really jealous? Well, [7] I think I ought to punish you severely. Let me consider. [8] What shall be your penance?

Leopold.

[9] Any thing but the suspension of these [10] precious interviews. Pronounce my sentence, and I [11] will submit in silence.

Rosara.

[12] Seize the first opportunity of serving the [13] object of your unfounded suspicions.

Leopold.

[14] That will be a pleasure instead of a penance. [15] Think again.

Rosara.

[16] O I suspect I may as well forgive you at [17] once. Do you attend the French marquis on the [18] plain to-day?

Leopold.

[19] I do, and you kindly remind me of my [20] duty, for I had forgotten every thing but Rosara. [21] I must fly to the castle, or I shall be waited for. But [22] tell me, Rosara, is there still no hope of attaining [23] your mother's consent to our union?

Rosara.

[24] Alas! I fear not. You know her objections.

Leopold.

[25] The lack of promotion. Would to [26] Heaven the treaty of Leoben was converted into cartridge-paper [27] for those, who, like me, are sighing for [28] glory.

Rosara.

[29] On that subject, my wishes are not in unison [30] with yours. May the treaty of Leoben be soon [31] ratified by our gracious sovereign, and peace once

[Page 37]

[32] more bless distracted Europe. It cannot retard *our*[33] happiness, but will promote that of millions.

Leopold.

[34] Your wish is generous, and mine was selfish. [35] Shall we meet to-morrow?

Rosara.

[36] If my mother goes out.

Leopold.

[37] With that promise to support me, I take [38] my leave.

Rosara.

[39] Adieu! but remember, no more causeless [40] jealousy and hasty rencontres. Beware of the second [41] offence.

[*Exeunt opposite.*]

## SCENE V.

*Broken rocks and bushes—Enter Hugerand Bolman.*

Huger.

[1] This recess will effectually conceal our [2] horses, until it be necessary to make them visible.

Bolman.

[3] Walter tarries long.

Huger.

[4] Hark! I surely hear the quick tread of a [5] fleet horse. It is Walter himself.

*Enter Walter.*

[6] Where is the cabriolet?

Walter.

[7] Stopped on the plain, and the marquis is [8] now advancing with the officer on foot, apparently [9] engaged in deep conversation.

Huger.

[10] Then let us meet them immediately.

Bolman.

[11] Stay a moment. Walter, ascend that [12] rock, and observe the situation of the soldier who [13] guards the carriage.

Walter.

[14] Consider me at the summit, sir.

[*ascends.*]

Huger.

[15] How are your arms?

Bolman.

[16] In excellent order.

Walter.

[17] The soldier has left the carriage, and is [18] hastily following his officer.

Huger.

[19] Then this is our moment, or never. Follow [20] us instantly.

*[Exeunt.]*

## Scene VI.

*An extensive plain. The city and castle of Olmutz in the distance.*

*Enter Fayette and Leopold.*

Fayette.

[1] I cannot dispute the excellence of your

[\[Page 38\]](#)

[2] German manufacturers; they excel in the useful; [3] but for the ornamental, you are still indebted to France. [4] For instance, your sword—

Leopold.

[5] To convince you of your error, marquis, [6] examine this blade, and you will find it not only of [7] German steel, but of German workmanship also.

*[Gives his sword to Fayette.]*

*Enter Huger, with his sword drawn.*

Huger.

[8] You are free! Seize that horse, and fortune [9] be your guide.

Leopold.

*[Seizes the sword from, Fayette, who escapes.]*

[10] Traitor! You must first cut me down.

*[They fight.]*

*[The soldier enters to assist Leopold, and is met by Walter, who attacks him. Huger and Leopold exit fighting.]*

*Walter disarms the soldier.]*

Walter.

[11] Consider yourself as second best, and remain [12] perfectly quiet, or I shall be compelled to quiet [13] you.

*[The sound of distant cannon heard, the flashes of which can be seen on the walls of the castle.]*

Soldier.

[14] The alarm is given, and the peasants are [15] assembling. Do your worst, for your triumph will [16] be short.

Walter.

[17] I shall do my *best*, and follow my master. [18] So consider yourself saluted.

*[Exeunt.]*

## Scene VII.

*As scene 5—rocks and bushes.*

*Enter Huger and Leopold fighting. Huger disarms Leopold.*

Huger.

[1] Take back your sword, and acknowledge [2] that Americans are generous foes.

Leopold.

[3] Thus you doubly disarm me. But bear [4] testimony, thou generous conqueror, that I have discharged [5] my duty.

Huger.

[6] Rely upon it, I wil. There is my hand— [7] Farewell.

*[Exit Leopold.]*

*Enter Bolman.*

Bolman.

[8] All is lost! The horse we designed for

[Page 39]

[9] the marquis, frightened by the sudden alarm, has [10] broken his bridle, and fled precipitately over the [11] plain towards the town.

Huger.

[12] Then let him mount mine, instantly. There [13] is no time to be lost. Save yourself and him; I [14] have no fears for myself. I am a good runner, and [15] we are now among the woods and rocks. Away!

*[Exeunt.]*

### Scene VIII.

*A wild rocky glen.*

*Enter Huger exhausted.*

Huger.

[1] Here I must rest awhile. La Fayette and [2] Bolman are safe, and I am happy.

*Enter two peasants, who seize Huger.*

Huger.

[3] Here, good fellow, take my purse, and [4] leave me to my fate.

*[One of them seizes the purse, while the other makes himself master of Huger's sword.]*

Peasant.

[5] It is rather our business to *lead* you to [6] your fate. You are a state prisoner. The governor [7] is my paymaster, and this will reward my companions.

Huger.

[8] Villain!

*[Seizes the peasant, who whistles, and a dozen more enter. Huger is overpowered and led off.]*

*[Exeunt.]*

END OF ACT II.

## ACT III.

### Scene I.

*A prison. Huger in chains, folding a letter.*

Huger.

[1] This, then, is the termination of all my [2] fairy hopes. But why should I repine? Have I not [3] the consolation of reflecting that I have been instrumental [4] in rescuing from tyranny and misery one of [5] the first characters on earth? That glorious idea shall [6] support me through every vicissitude of fortune, and [7] enable me to meet my fate with fortitude, even if it [8] be death. But Ellen! My lovely, adored Ellen! O

[Page 40]

[9] let me not look that way: the thought is worse than [10] death.

*Enter Leopold.*

[11] Whether you accepted my proffered friendship or [12] not, you may now approach me in safety, for you see [13] I am perfectly harmless.

Leopold.

[14] Would to heaven that it were not so. [15] Believe me, dear sir, when I assure you that my heart [16] bleeds for you.

Huger.

[17] I feel grateful for your sympathy; but I [18] have a consolation, which you seem to overlook. The [19] noble La Fayette is free.

Leopold.

[20] And are you, my friend, aware of the [21] consequences?

Huger.

[22] Perhaps not. I am a stranger in your [23] country, and unacquainted with your laws. But I [24] have profited by the generous Lohrstein's kind indulgence; [25] and could this letter be forwarded to Vienna—

Leopold.

[26] Have you friends in the capital?

Huger.

[27] Many, among whom is the American ambassador, [28] to whom this letter is addressed. He has [29] ever been warmly attached to my father's family, and [30] to myself in particular. The English ambassador [31] has also honoured me with many marks of attention [32] and kindness; and the Baron de Bevern has more [33] than once expressed a warm interest in my welfare.

Leopold.

[34] Rest assured that this letter shall be forwarded [35] by the swiftest messenger that can be procured. [36] But I fear—

Huger.

[37] Hesitate not to tell me all your fears. I [38] avow myself the instrument of La Fayette's rescue [39] from imprisonment, and am ready to meet the consequences, [40] be they what they may. You pause. Fear [41] not to tell me the worst. What will be my fate?

Leopold.

[42] If La Fayette has passed the frontiers—

Huger.

[43] Of that there can be no doubt. He rode [44] my horse. La Fayette is free. What then?

Leopold.

[45] The rescue of a state prisoner is punishable [46] with—

[Page 41]

Huger.

[47] Death. Is it not so?

Leopold.

[48] But La Fayette may be retaken.

Huger.

[49] Forbid it, heaven! Lead me this moment [50] to the scaffold, and if you see me tremble, whisper [51] in my ear that La Fayette is free, and I will smile at [52] the stroke of death.

Leopold.

[53] And Ellen—

Huger.

[54] Hold, barbarian! There is a magic in [55] that name which has at once dissolved my enthusiasm, [56] and sunk me into nothing—

(*a pause.*)

Let her, [57] if possible, remain ignorant of my fate.

Leopold.

[58] She knows it already. She is now in the [59] castle.

Huger.

[60] Here! In the castle!

Leopold.

[61] I this moment left her, at the feet of her [62] inexorable father, sprinkling the less obdurate pavement [63] with her tears. Her lovely cousin kneels by [64] her side, clinging to her uncle's knees, and imploring [65] mercy for the imprisoned Huger.

Huger.

[66] Could I have been spared this pang, death [67] had been nothing. But now, alas! I feel that I am a [68] coward.

Leopold.

[69] When *I* was in *your* power, you generously [70] spared my life, and gave me back my sword. [71] I have come to cancel the obligation. *Your* magnanimity [72] has made you a prisoner: *mine* shall restore [73] you to liberty.

Permit me—

*[Takes off his chains.]*

Huger.

[74] What mean you!

Leopold.

[75] To save the life of my Rosara's distracted [76] cousin. The sentry now on duty is obedient [77] to my orders, and with me you can pass him without [78] suspicion. At my quarters I will furnish you with [79] the Austrian uniform, and a passport for Trappaw. [80] From thence, heaven, and your own discretion, must [81] be your protection. Follow me, without a moment's [82] hesitation.

Huger.

[83] How will you answer for my disappearance?

Leopold.

[84] That must depend upon circumstances [85] something shall be contrived when you are safe; at

[\[Page 42\]](#)

[86] present, I can only think of Ellen's misery, and Rosara's [87] tears.

Huger.

[88] Has not the governor committed me to [89] your charge? Do not permit your generosity to soil [90] your honour. Come, confess now that you are responsible.

Leopold.

[91] For the love of heaven, Huger, do not [92] drive me frantic with such suggestions. Another moment [93] and it is too late. Grant me the bliss of saving [94] you and Ellen, and there is no evil I can apprehend.

Huger.

[95] Give me my chains again. The temptation [96] was dreadful. But it is over, and I am conquerer. [97] Give me my chains.

Leopold.

[98] Madman! Would you murder Ellen? [99] This instant fly with me. Alas! it will be too late; [100] I hear approaching footsteps. Come, I conjure you! [101] Oh! fatal obstinacy! Now all is lost!

*[The sound of withdrawing bolts is heard. Huger suddenly resumes his chains, folds his arms, and appears as if he was still shackled.] Rosara and Ellen enter hastily, the latter exclaiming—*

Ellen.

[102] His life is safe! Huger you will live. Ellen [103] is the harbinger of your safety. La Fayette is retaken. [104]

*[He turns from her with coldness.]*

Rosara, [105] he hears me not! or he despises me! Tell me, Rosara, [106] have I deserved his scorn!

Huger.

[107] La Fayette again a prisoner! Then have [108] I played this hazardous game for nothing. Cruel, [109] cruel Ellen! thus to strip my bosom of its shield. [110] I was prepared to meet my fate with firmness.

*Enter Bolman, in chains, conducted by an officer.*

Huger.

[111] Ha! Bolman, my friend! In chains, too! [112] Now am I bereft of every consolation. I fondly hoped [113] that you, at least, were safe.

*[They embrace.]*

Ellen.

[114] See! Rosara—with what ardour he embraces [115] his friend, while to me—

Huger.

[116] Ellen! 'Twas cruel; but you meant it kindly.

[Page 43]

Ellen.

[117] Huger!

*[They gaze at each other a moment and then embrace.]*

*Enter a Sergeant.*

Sergeant.

[118] Captain Leopold, the general, desires [119] your presence.

*[Exeunt Leopold and Sergeant]*

Ellen.

[120] And do you still love Ellen?

Huger.

[121] Can Ellen prize the love of such a wretch? [122] Look there! My best of friends has been retaken too!

Bolman.

[123] You mistake, dear Huger. I succeeded [124] in eluding the search of my pursuers, and reached [125] Bautrap in safety, where I had no doubt of joining [126] the object of our enterprise. Finding the chaise we had [127] ordered, and yet no appearance of La Fayette, my [128] heart foreboded mischief. With as much patience, [129] however, as I could command, I remained until evening [130] not yet giving up all hopes of a favourable issue [131] to our adventure. I then dismissed the chaise, and [132] made a circuitous journey, in hopes that the marquis [133] and yourself might have escaped by a different route. [134] Too soon I learned the cruel truth of La Fayette's [135] recapture, and your own incarceration. In despair [136] at having been the primary cause of your misfortune, [137] I determined to share it with you; so voluntarily surrendered [138] myself, and am here a prisoner as you see.

Ellen.

[139] Embrace him again, dear Huger; for he [140] deserves your love.

Huger.

[141] Best of friends! I will not chide you for [142] what I should have done myself. But still I must lament [143] a fate you do not merit.

*Re-enter Leopold and Sergeant.*

Leopold.

[144] I am sorry, sir, that my orders compel [145] me to separate you from your friend. This sergeant [146] will conduct you to the apartment allotted for your [147] reception.

Bolman.

[148] Reckless of the future, I bow to my fate [149] in silence. Lead me to my dungeon. Once more, [150] my friend.

*(embraces Huger.)*

Now farewell for ever.

*[Exit, attended by the sergeant.]*

Leopold.

[151] You must prepare yourself to undergo [152] an immediate examination before the chief-magistrate.

Ellen.

[153] Who! Bribenberg! O no, Leopold! not [154] Bribenberg! His breast is a stranger to compassion.

Huger.

[155] And what if it be so, sweet Ellen? Conscious [156] rectitude will support me, and justice will [157] finally triumph. Conduct me to the tribunal.

Ellen.

[158] I will go with you, then, and on my knees [159] implore him to be merciful.

Huger.

[160] Not if you love me, Ellen, I entreat.

*Enter Lohrstein.*

Lohrstein.

[161] Conduct the prisoner to the tribunal.

Ellen.

[162] Let me go with him, dear father; will you [163] not?

Lohrstein.

[164] Nay, ask me not, my child. I have [165] already transcended my duty in yielding to your entreaties. [166] Come, I will support you hence. Your [167] arm Rosara, come.

Ellen.

[168] But his life is safe, is it not?

Lohrstein.

[169] I cannot answer that question; for his [170] judge is the man whose heart and hand you have rejected.

Ellen.

[171] O heavens! then there is no hope! unless [172] —yes—there shall be hope—let me fly to him—I will [173] consent to—

Huger.

[174] Hold! Ellen; and ere you finish that hateful [175] sentence, let me meet death in lingering tortures.

Lohrstein.

[176] Be calm, my child, and hope for the [177] best. Come, come.

*[He leads Ellen and Rosara towards one side, while Leopold and Huger prepare to exit at the other. They look back and gaze at each other with tenderness, and then exeunt.]*

**Scene II.**

*An apartment in the hotel, with a closet, &c.*

*Enter Walter and Annette*

Walter.

[1] And so it was you who betrayed our secret [2] to old Bribenberg? Consider yourself the witch [3] of Endor.

Annette.

[4] Had you entrusted me with any secret, [5] I promise you I should never have betrayed it. But [6] what could you expect of a woman, who conjectured [7] much, and knew nothing; who had been dismissed by [8] her mistress, without a shadow of cause, and who—

Walter.

[9] Was dying with curiosity to learn the [10] secrets of others. Well—well—reproaches are now [11] useless. Assist to conceal me, and I will forgive you, [12] for I have no inclination to be a prisoner in that infernal [13] castle, for I think I can better serve my master [14] by remaining outside.

Annette.

[15] Will you forgive me, Walter? Now [16] that's a dear good soul! Remain in that closet, and [17] you will be perfectly safe, for no one enters here [18] without my permission. And now tell me all about [19] your journey to Vienna.

Walter.

[20] Consider yourself the paragon of curiosity.

Annette.

[21] Tell me all the secret, if there be one, [22] or you dont know what I may conjecture and relate [23] as facts.

Walter.

[24] As soon as the alarm was given, on the [25] rescue of the marquis, our little party fled in different [26] directions, and I saw no more of either until the next [27] day, when being fairly starved out of my place of [28] concealment, I met Bolman returning to Olmutz. He [29] informed me that our enterprise had failed, and that [30] the marquis and my master had both become prisoners. [31] I suggested the propriety of acquainting our [32] friends at Vienna. He immediately dismounted from [33] his horse, tore a leaf from his pocket-book, and wrote [34] a few lines with his pencil, referring the reader to your [35] humble servant, the bearer, for further particulars. [36] He then insisted upon my mounting his horse, and [37] posting to Vienna without delay.

Annette.

[38] Well, how did you speed?

Walter.

[39] With such speed as brought me to our [40] old lodgings in Vienna in less than twelve hours. [41] Without pausing to salute my host, I proceeded immediately [42] to the chateau of the Baron de Bevern.

[Page 46]

Annette.

[43] Then the letter was addressed to the [44] Baron?

Walter.

[45] Consider yourself mistaken—it was addressed [46] to the Baron's guest, the American ambassador, [47] whose livery attracted my attention, and saved [48] me the trouble of proceeding half a mile farther, to [49] his excellency's residence.

Annette.

[50] Well, you delivered the letter?

Walter.

[51] Consider that ceremony performed by his [52] excellency's footman. But I was soon summoned before [53] all their excellencies, and underwent an examination [54] as long as the church litany.

Annette.

[55] Well, well; come to the result.

Walter.

[56] That I have yet to learn. All I know [57] is, that the American ambassador took me aside, and [58] bid me inform my master that he should hear from [59] him in a few days. But how can such a message be [60] conveyed to him?

Annette.

[61] Through his friend Leopold. But i must [62] now hasten to lady Ellen, who has been in a sad way [63] ever since the arrest of your master.

[going.

Walter.

[64] Poor dear soul! how much I pity her. [65] But, I say; Annette—

Annette.

(Returning.)

[66] Well.

Walter.

[67] Don't leave me here in idleness; but furnish [68] me with some employment from the larder.

Annette.

[69] Be under no apprehensions of starving. [70] But I must be expeditious.

[going.

Walter.

[71] A bottle of wine.

Annette.

[72] Well, well! How can you think of such [73] trifles?

[going.

Walter.

[74] Trifles, indeed! A bottle of good wine [75] is no trifle, let me tell you. But, I say, Annette!

Annette.

[76] I can stay no longer. Think less of your [77] palate, and more of your unfortunate master, and my [78] poor distracted mistress.

Walter.

[79] It is thinking so much of them that has [80] thus depressed my spirits, and rendered some stimulant [81] necessary. So, if you please, I will take the

[\[Page 47\]](#)

[82] sweetmeats now, and the dinner afterwards.

[Kisses her; she runs off, and he enters the closet.]

[Exeunt.

Scene III.

*An apartment in the chateau. Ellen asleep on a sofa; Rosara watching by her side.*

*Enter Countess, weeping.*

Rosara.

[1] Speak, my dear mother; though I tremble [2] to hear the news—is there no hope?

Countess.

[3] None, my child. Huger and Bolman [4] are both condemned.

Rosara.

[5] But not to death, my mother! Oh! say [6] not to death!

Countess.

[7] Their fate hangs on the lips of Bribenberg, [8] whose mercenary soul can only be moved by [9] money. Leopold, who acted as interpreter at their [10] trial, has won my heart by his exertions in their favour, [11] and he does not yet despair of preventing their [12] destruction.

Rosara.

[13] May heaven's eternal blessings rest upon [14] his head! But, hush! My cousin stirs.

Ellen.

(asleep.)

[15] O save him! save him! and here [16] I promise to be yours. Nay, Huger, hear me: you [17] must not; you shall not perish.

(awakes.)

Where am I?

Rosara.

[18] In your own Rosara's arms. Compose [19] yourself, my dearest Ellen; my Leopold is labouring [20] for the safety of Huger.

Ellen.

[21] Alas! I dreamed that Bribenberg—

*Enter Leopold.*

[22] O speak, and let me know the worst: is Huger—

Leopold.

[23] His life, I trust, is preserved; but—

Ellen.

[24] His liberty—

Leopold.

[25] Nothing but an enormous bribe can restore [26] him to liberty.

Rosara.

[27] Then save him, Leopold, or I never see [28] you more.

Leopold.

[29] Alas! Rosara, you forget that I am a [30] beggar.

Rosara.

[31] My dearest mother, will you not assist

[\[Page 48\]](#)

[32] us to save him? Make me a begger, also; but Oh! [33] preserve my cousin, by buying Huger's liberty.

Countess.

[34] Be clam, my dear. Every thing shall [35] be done that my limited means will permit. But, [36] hark! What means that tumult in the street!

*[Ringing of bells, shouts, &c.]*

*Enter Annette in joyful haste.*

Annette.

[37] O my dear lady! Such news! Your father, [38] the general—no, Walter—no, your uncle, the Baron— [39] no, no—I mean Bonaparte—O I am so bewildered [40] with joy, that I cannot speak—but here comes Walter, [41] and he will tell you all.

*Enter Walter.*

Leopold.

[42] What can this mean? Tell me, good fellow, [43] the cause of those shouts.

Walter.

[44] Tol, lol, de rol! Beg your pardon, ladies— [45] tol, lol, de rol! Excuse me, sir—tol, lol, de rol! [46] Consider yourselves in Paradise, and Bonaparte emperor [47] of the world. Tol, lol, de rol!

Leopold.

[48] Truce with this mockery, and instantly [49] explain yourself.

Countess.

[50] Let *me* intreat you, Walter, to tell us [51] what all this means.

Walter.

[52] It means love, pardon, freedom, and independence, [53] madam. O, Annette, we shall be so [54] happy!

Leopold.

[55] Freedom? To whom?

Walter.

[56] To my master—to Bolman—to Fayette, [57] the general—all the world, except old Bribenberg.

Ellen.

[58] Did I hear aright! is Huger—

Walter.

[59] Free as air. Consider him at your feet, [60] fair lady, for he will be there in a moment.

Ellen.

[61] Support me, Rosara.

Rosara.

[62] In these arms, my cousin. Bear up a [63] moment; happiness awaits us.

*Enter Lohrstein.*

Leopold.

[64] My dear general, explain.

Lohrstein.

[65] These gentleman will do it better

[Page 49]

*Enter Fayette, Bollman and Huger.*

Huger.

[66] My dearest Ellen! Look up! It is Francipeaks.

Ellen.

[67] Are you then really free? O should this [68] also prove a dream.

Huger.

[69] Fear not, sweetest girl. Freedom and [70] happiness are both my own.

*[They confer apart*

Lohrstein.

[71] An express has just arrived from Vienna [72] with an order for the immediate liberation of our noble [73] friend, the Marquis La Fayette, together with a [74] free pardon for these young gentlemen, whose chivalric [75] adventure had nearly anticipated the imperial [76] mandate.

Leopold.

[77] Indeed! May I inquire what has produced [78] this unexpected change in our Emperor's prolicy.

Lohrstein.

[79] The treaty of Leoben, which was accepted [80] at Campo Formio, has just been ratified by [81] our government, in which the liberation of the Marquis, [82] is a stripulated article. The intercession of the [83] American ambassador in behalf of these knight errants [84] was consequently successful, and our gracious sovereign [85] signed a pardon for both.

Ellen.

[86] Bless him! all bounteous Heaven, as he has [87] blessed us. Will you not respond to such a prayer, [88]

Huger?

Huger.

[89] Amen! with all my heart.

Lohrstein.

[90] And now, Marquis, permit me in behalf [91] of all present, to congratulate you on this auspicious [92] event. We have all sympathized in your sufferings [93] —let us also rejoice in their happy termination.

Fayette.

[94] I know not how to speak my feelings on [95] this occasion, and must not attempt it until the agitation [96] of this exquisite moment has in some measure subsided. [97] To these brave young gentlemen—

Bolman.

[98] Pardon this interruption sir, and permit us [99] to entreat that you will not pain us by the language [100] of acknowledgment. Grant us your friendship, and [101] we shall be happy.

[Page 50]

Huger.

[102] I earnestly unite in the same request, marquis.

Fayette.

[103] You, sir, have a double claim on my regard, [104] as the son of my old friend. The brave colonel [105] Huger, fair countess, was a nobleman of Heaven's [106] own make, not of man's creation, and if greatness be [107] hereditary, no rank would be degraded by an alliance [108] with his gallant son.

Huger.

[109] Nay, marquis—I—

Fayette.

[110] I anticipate all you would say.

Countess.

[111] To convince you, marquis, that I can rise [112] superior to the narrow prejudices of the day, I will [113] here do an act of justice on the spot. Rosara, your [114] hand. There, call in Leopold, my objections have [115] vanished.

Leopold.

[116] O Rosara this is indeed a day of joy. [117] How shall I express my thanks for such a treasure.

Countess.

[118] By making my daughter happy.

Ellen.

[119] How happy must you be, dearest aunt, [120] when with one word you can impart such joy to [121] others. I wish it was in my power to do the same.

Walter.

[122] Consider yourself endowed with the same [123] privilege, dear madam. Give me my little Annette [124] there, and if we don't make the happiest couple in [125] Olmutz, we'll serve you for nothing.

Ellen.

[126] You have *my* consent, Walter, and I am [127] sure I can answer for that of your master.

Walter.

[128] Thank you, madam. Annette, consider [129] yourself married.

Annette.

[130] No, indeed, I shall not, until the priest [131] has actually pronounced the blessing.

Lohrstein.

[132] Does not your heart expand, my noble [133] friend, to see so many smiling faces around you, after [134] the long and irksome solitude you have endured?

Fayette.

[135] It does, indeed: it glows with ardour indescribable. [136] Resuscitated hope again assures me [137] that the cause of Liberty may yet be successful. May [138] the star of Freedom, which enlightens happy America, [139] increase in brightness until every quarter of the [140] world feels and confesses its benignant influence.

Back matter

THE END

## DETAILS

<b>Editor:</b>	Woodworth, Samuel
<b>Date first performed:</b>	First performed: Park Theater, New York; First performed: February 23, 1824
<b>Publication title:</b>	La Fayette, Or the Castle Of Olmutz
<b>Pages:</b>	50 p.
<b>Publication date:</b>	1824
<b>Publication year:</b>	1824
<b>Publisher/Imprint:</b>	C. N. Baldwin
<b>Physical description:</b>	50 p.
<b>Publisher:</b>	C. N. Baldwin
<b>Place of publication:</b>	New York
<b>Country of publication:</b>	New York
<b>Series:</b>	Literature Online - American Drama 1714–1915
<b>Publication subject:</b>	Literature
<b>Source type:</b>	Books
<b>Language of publication:</b>	English
<b>Document type:</b>	Book, History, Prose drama
<b>Publication note:</b>	Preliminaries omitted.
<b>Accession number:</b>	HH0001378
<b>ProQuest document ID:</b>	2138581723
<b>Document URL:</b>	<a href="https://search.proquest.com/docview/2138581723?accountid=10286">https://search.proquest.com/docview/2138581723?accountid=10286</a>
<b>Database:</b>	Literature Online

## LINKS

[Linking Service](#)

Database copyright © 2019 ProQuest LLC. All rights reserved.

[Terms and Conditions](#) [Contact ProQuest](#)