

Le ciel daigne nous affranchir,
 Nos cœurs doubleront le plaisir
 Par le souvenir de nos peines.
 Ton fils, plus heureux qu'aujourd'hui
 Saura, dissipant tes alarmes,
 Effacer la trace des larmes
 Qu'en ces lieux tu verses pour lui.
 A Madame Elisabeth
 Et toi, dont les soins, la tendresse,
 Ont adouci tant de malheurs,
 Ta récompense est dans les cœurs
 Que tu formes à la sagesse...
 Ah! Souviens-toi des derniers vœux
 Qu'en mourant exprima ton frère;
 Reste toujours près de ma mère,
 Et ses enfants en auront deux.

Marie Thérèse Charlotte and her brother, Louis Charles remained in the Temple Prison, never to see one another again. Her brother, Louis Charles died on 8 June 1795, in the Temple Prison. Marie Thérèse Charlotte was then allowed to walk in the Temple gardens, and to receive visits from some ladies of the Court. Madame de Chantreine told her of the deaths of her mother, aunt, and brother. According to Madame de la Ramière's letter to Madame de Verneuil, "She spoke so confusedly, that it was difficult to understand her. It took her more than a month's reading aloud, with careful study of pronunciation, to make herself intelligible, so much had she lost the power of expression." Marie Thérèse Charlotte was released from prison at midnight on her birthday, 19 December 1795. The Minister of the Interior, M. Benezec conducted her on foot from the Temple to the street where his carriage awaited her. Marie Thérèse Charlotte requested that Gomin should accompany her to the frontier and Madame de Soucy, former under-governess to the children of France, was also in attendance. Marie Thérèse Charlotte took with her a dog named Coco, which had belonged to her father, Louis XVI.



Marie Thérèse Charlotte

by Heinrich Friedrich Füger

1795-1796

As Madame Royale crossed the frontier she said; "I leave France with regret, for I shall never cease to consider it my country." She arrived on 9 January 1796, in Vienna. According to Madame Royale, "I was sent for to the Emperor's cabinet, where I found the imperial family assembled. The ministers and chief imperial counsellors were also present... When the Emperor invited me to express my opinion, I answered that to be able to treat fittingly of such interests I thought, I ought to be surrounded not only by my mother's relatives, but also by those of my father... Besides, I said, I was above all things French, and in entire subjection to the laws of France, which had rendered me alternately the subject of the King my father, the King my brother, and the King my uncle, and that I would yield obedience to the latter, whatever might be his commands. This declaration appeared very much to dissatisfy all who were present, and when they observed that I was not to be shaken, they declared that my right being independent of my will, my resistance would not be the slightest obstacle to the measures they might deem it necessary to adopt for the preservation of my interests." When the Duc de Grammont succeeded in obtaining an audience of her, and used the familiar form of address, she smiled and bade him beware; "Call me Madame de Bretagne, or de Bourgogne, or de Lorraine, for here I am so identified with these provinces, that I shall end in believing in my own transformation." In 1798, Louis XVIII accepted a refuge offered to him at Mittau by Paul I. Louis XVIII begged Paul I to use