

was felt with regard to the selection of a suitable residence, where they might sojourn during their exile; and, after search, Camden Place was fixed upon, and here the closing years of an imperial author of the "*Vie de César*" were peacefully passed in the spot where the great English antiquarian had died.

Prince Charles Louis Napoleon Bonaparte, born at the Tuileries April 20th, 1808, was the second son of Louis Bonaparte, King of Holland from 1806 to 1810, by his queen Hortense, daughter of the Empress Josephine, the first wife of Napoleon I., whose first husband was the Viscomte de Beauharnais. After the overthrow of Napoleon I. in 1815, Hortense, then called the Duchesse de St. Leu, resided with her two sons in Switzerland and Germany. In 1831, Prince Louis Napoleon and his elder brother, having joined the Italian conspiracy of the Carbonari against the Papal Government, took part in the insurrection of Romagna, when the elder prince died of a fever. By this event and the death of his cousin, the Duke of Reichstadt, Prince Louis Napoleon became heir to the Bonapartist Imperial pretensions. Shortly afterwards he attempted, first at Strasbourg, in 1836, and secondly at Boulogne, in 1840 (living, meanwhile, chiefly in London), to excite a mutiny of French soldiers in his favour, and was punished upon the former occasion by exile to America, and upon the latter by six years' imprisonment in the fortress of Ham. In December, 1848, he was elected by universal suffrage President of the French Republic, which he converted, after three years, into an absolute personal dictatorship by his *coup d'état* and fresh appeal to the popular vote. His consort, the now widowed Empress, was a gentlewoman of mixed Spanish and Scottish descent, Mlle. Eugénie de Montijo, created in Spain Countess de Teba, daughter of the Count de Montijo, a grandee of that kingdom, by a lady of the Kirkpatrick family. The marriage of the Emperor and Empress, in Notre Dame Cathedral, took place January 30th, 1853, and their only child, the Prince Imperial, was born March 16th, 1856. After this came the romantic and glorious enterprise of Napoleon III. in the War of Italian Liberation, his landing at Genoa in 1859, and the enthusiastic welcome that greeted the victor of Magenta and Solferino, in Piedmont and in Lombardy, when the might of French arms had helped King Victor Emmanuel to deliver Italy from Austrian domination. Finally came the disastrous war against Prussia and Germany in 1870, resulting in the surrender of Sedan and the downfall of the Second Empire.

The *Gaulois* thus describes the mode of life pur-

sued by the Imperial exiles at Camden Place, about a twelvemonth previous to the Emperor's death:—"A few faithful friends, among whom are the Duc de Bassano, Grand Chamberlain, the Comte and Comtesse Clary, Mlle. de Lerminet, the Comte Davilliers, M. Pietri, the Emperor's secretary, Baron Corvisart, Dr. Conneau and his son, M. Filon, the Prince Imperial's tutor, and Madame Bebreton-Bourbaki, live either at Camden Place or in the village. The Emperor, always an early riser, makes his appearance about half-past nine in the gallery, where the guests invited are presented to him. After breakfast, an hour is spent in general conversation. Then, if the weather permits, the Emperor and Empress, accompanied by their friends, stroll about the grounds or the neighbourhood; then the Emperor devotes himself to work till seven o'clock. The evening is spent in reading or conversation, which is never prolonged after eleven o'clock. All frivolous amusements are strictly prohibited, while there is an utter absence of every pomp or luxury. The food and the service are all of a simple character, befitting the position of a private gentleman of moderate fortune." The Emperor died here on the 9th of January, 1873. The death was occasioned by failure of the hearts' action after an operation had been successfully performed. The Empress and Monsignor Goddard were present.

The part of the house devoted to the lying-in-state was the picture-gallery in the hall, just opposite the principal entrance, facing the Common, and during the four hours that the public were admitted to view it, it is estimated that the number of people who went to see it was nearly thirty thousand. All down the corridor, which runs the whole length of the house, the walls were hung with black, and when the curtains, which at first concealed the mortuary chapel, were drawn back or festooned, there was seen the Emperor lying in his coffin, still in the half-dress of a French general of division. There was a sad picturesqueness about the spectacle. The three sides of the apartment were hung with black cloth, the gloom of which was relieved by the lighted tapers in the silver candlesticks, by a large centre cross worked in white, and by an "N" and an Imperial crown on each side, also in white, while two wreaths of purple violets, with white ones interspersed, which hung on the wall facing the visitors as they passed the coffin, still further relieved the heaviness of the view. Overhead, but outside the chamber, there was more drapery of the same sombre hue as that inside, with an Imperial eagle in a large frame in the centre, and "N" and a crown on each side.