

**BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH  
OF JOSEPH  
NAPOLEON BONAPARTE,  
COUNT DE SURVILLIERS**

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Biographical Sketch of Joseph Napoleon Bonaparte, Count de Surveilliers by Louis Belmontet

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**LOUIS BELMONTET**

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**Biographical Sketch.**

OF

**JOSEPH NAPOLEON BONAPARTE,**

*Es. Es.*

**BIOGRAPHICAL**

**Sketch**

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**JOSEPH NAPOLEON BONAPARTE,**

**COUNT DE SURVILLIERS.**

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**SECOND EDITION.**

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655.

A FEW WORDS  
TO THE READER.

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(TRANSLATION.)

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THE French, and other papers, have for some time been indulging in speculations relative to the return of Joseph Napoleon Bonaparte, Count de Survilliers, to Europe. Political motives have been attributed to it in consequence of its supposed connexion with the death of his nephew, Napoleon II., although, until the arrival of the Count in England, he was ignorant of the misfortune which, by a strange coincidence, occurred on the very same day

that Joseph quitted the Republic of the United States, where he had lived like a true philosopher, doing good ; receiving, as a father, all the unfortunates who were banished from France, and gaining the universal esteem of the America of Washington.

His appearance in England, where his nephew, Prince Napoleon Bonaparte, proceeded to join him, has excited considerable curiosity. Each party in France accounts for it in its own way : prejudices against him have been revived, which will vanish by a simple recital of facts, like the absurd calumnies which were heaped upon the Emperor Napoleon after his fall, to which time, and the reason of the nation, have done ample justice. What chiefly recommends the family of Napoleon to popular sympathy, is the fact that it has been persecuted by the Allied Sovereigns ever since treason effected the fall of the Emperor, and that these same



Sovereigns protect the dynasty of the Bourbons: the first family representing the principle of the French revolution, the second the principle of divine right. At the present moment calumnies against Joseph and his nephew have been renewed: the family will never be pardoned the declaration of the French people in the year 13 (1804), which acknowledged the descendants of the male branches to be successors by right to the national and imperial sovereignty, residing and consecrated by the people in the person of the Emperor Napoleon.

A very remarkable work, and one which has produced a deep impression in France, "The History of the Revolution of 1830," by M. Sarrans, has revealed to the public a very honourable correspondence between Joseph and M. Lafayette, the latter of whom had seen and personally witnessed the great consideration which the ex-king and honest man en-

joyed in the United States. The effect caused by this revelation, so honourable to Joseph, has been an inducement to republish simply, and without any attempts at eloquence, some biographical extracts relative to him, published in the North American Review, and other journals, in 1828, at a time when there was no interest in disguising historical truths; to which are added some authentic letters addressed to the Count de Survilliers, by men who have shone in political scenes, such as General Lamarque, and others. Above all, the dates of the letters of Lamarque entitle them to the greatest weight. The protestation of Joseph, addressed to the Chamber of Deputies in 1830, in favour of his nephew Napoleon, has also been inserted, and which, for certain reasons not made known, was *concealed* from the French people. In this collection of details it will be seen that Joseph, as citizen, representa-

tive, orator, captain, ambassador, philosopher, king, exile, and husbandman; was always loved and esteemed, and always a friend to humanity and popular institutions. He was the intimate confidant of the patriotic projects which his brother Napoleon contemplated for France. He was even still more, he was *his best friend*, which few words imply every thing.

A YOUNG PATRIOT.

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*A Monsieur R\*\*\*, éditeur de la Biographie,  
sous le nom "d'un Jeune Patriote."*

MONSIEUR,

J'AI lu la Biographie, que vous venez de publier sous le nom *d'un Jeune Patriote*. Tout ce qui s'y trouve des principes de ma vie est vrai. Quant à la lettre à la Chambre des Députés, il faut se reporter à sa date, pour en