

**THE LIFE AND LETTERS
OF MADAME
BONAPARTE**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649004898

The life and letters of Madame Bonaparte by Eugene L. Didier

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

EUGENE L. DIDIER

**THE LIFE AND LETTERS
OF MADAME
BONAPARTE**

THE LIFE AND LETTERS
OF
MADAME BONAPARTE.

ISAAC FOOT
LIBRARY

LONDON:
GILBERT AND RIVINGTON, PRINTERS,
ST. JOHN'S SQUARE.

82522

THE LIFE AND LETTERS
OF
MADAME BONAPARTE.

BY
EUGENE L. DIDIER.

SECOND EDITION.

LONDON:
SAMPSON LOW, MARSTON, SEARLE, & RIVINGTON,
CROWN BUILDINGS, 188, FLEET STREET.

1879. *U.S.*
[All rights reserved.]

P R E F A C E.

THE long, eventful, and romantic career of Madame Bonaparte made her one of the most famous women of the country. Her remarkable history covers a period of ninety-four years. Born four years before the organization of the United States government by the original Thirteen States, she lived to see the Union composed of thirty-eight States, with a population of nearly fifty millions. At the time of her birth, Baltimore was a small town of little more than four thousand inhabitants ; she lived to see it a large city of little less than four hundred thousand. Born the daughter of a Baltimore merchant, Elizabeth Patterson became, by her marriage with Jerome Bonaparte, the sister-in-law of the Emperor Napoleon and the half-dozen kings and queens whom the French Cæsar placed upon the thrones of Europe. In all respects the equal, and in some the superior of

those thus favoured, Napoleon nevertheless excluded her from the imperial court ; yet, after the Emperor's final downfall, there remained for her a social career in Europe, the brilliancy of which has hitherto been but vaguely described. The recent discovery of her letters, written to her father during this period of her social success—when beauties envied her beauty and wits dreaded her wit, when kings sought her acquaintance and princes claimed her friendship—will enable us to give to the world the true story of the most brilliant years of this remarkable woman's life. Her letters display an amazing knowledge of the world, a keen analysis of men's motives, and an eager pursuit of worldly honours. This Baltimore girl, married at eighteen and deserted at twenty, seems to have possessed the *savoir-vivre* of Chesterfield, the cold cynicism of Rochefoucauld, and the practical economy of Franklin.

EUGENE L. DIDIER.

CONTENTS.

CHAPTER I.

	PAGE
The Patterson Family.—William Patterson, the Father of Mme. Bonaparte.—Childhood and Youth of Elizabeth Patterson.—Jerome Bonaparte visits the United States.—His First Meeting with Miss Patterson.—Their Engagement and Marriage.—Opposition of Napoleon.—Jerome ordered back to France without his Wife.—His Hesitation	13

CHAPTER II.

Napoleon is proclaimed Emperor.—Formation of the Imperial Court.—Monsieur Jerome is excluded from the Imperial Dynasty.—Monsieur and Madame Bonaparte spend the Winter of 1805 in Baltimore.—A Brilliant Season.—They sail for Europe.—Arrival at Lisbon.—Madame Bonaparte not allowed to land.—Jerome leaves her and goes to meet Napoleon.—The Emperor at first refuses to see his Brother.—He declares his Marriage null, and says he will never acknowledge it.—Madame Bonaparte sails for Amsterdam.—She arrives in the Texel Roads and is ordered off.—She goes to England.—Birth of Jerome Napoleon Bonaparte.—Mme. Bonaparte returns to the United States.—Napoleon applies to the Pope for a Bull divorcing Jerome from his Wife.—The Pope's Refusal	35
---	----

CHAPTER III.

Madame Bonaparte's disappointed Ambition.—Jerome's perfidy confirmed by his Marriage with the Princess of Würtemberg.—Madame Bonaparte's Residence in Baltimore.—The Stuart Portrait.—The Course of Events in France.—Madame Bonaparte again visits Europe.—Her Letters from England and France, 1806-1816	49
--	----