

NAPOLEON III.



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(*MY RECOLLECTIONS*)

BY

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NAPOLEON III. when living in London as a young man proposed marriage to two ladies, both of whom I had the honour of knowing: I use the term honour advisedly; for the lives of both have shown them to be exemplary women.

One was the daughter of M<sup>r</sup> and M<sup>rs</sup> Rowles, who had a large house at the North end of Stratton Street, Piccadilly. The mother of this young lady was an Italian: and may possibly have been connected with the Buonaparte family.

M<sup>rs</sup> Rowles had been in her youth, as my mother informed me, one of the most beautiful women in Europe. When I knew her, in advanced middle age, I could see no trace of the charms which she had pos-