

on the Portuguese frontier. All southern Spain, however, had been cleared of the invaders, who now only held the northern half of the Peninsula.

The next year (1813) saw the complete ruin of Napoleon. When the Russians advanced into Germany, the whole nation rose in arms to aid them. Prussia alone, **Battle of Leipzig—Fall of Napoleon.** though she had been mutilated and robbed and oppressed with French garrisons, put 200,000 men into the field. The Emperor once more appeared at the head of a vast army, bringing up his last reserves, huge drafts from the army of Spain, and hundreds of thousands of conscripts. But his troops were no longer the veterans of Austerlitz, and his enemies fought with a fury of which he had never before had experience. He gained a few successes in the opening weeks of the struggle, but when his own father-in-law, the Austrian Emperor, plunged into the struggle, the odds became too heavy, and at the battle of Leipzig (October 16-18, 1813) he was overwhelmed by numbers, and suffered a crushing defeat, in which more than half his army was slain or captured. The enemy pursued him energetically, gave him no time to rally, and entered France at his heels. They had at last learnt to turn his own methods of war against him, and knew that a beaten foe must not be allowed time to rally. Crossing the Rhine at midwinter, the allies pushed deep into France. Bonaparte, with the wrecks of his army, made a desperate resistance, but had not a shadow of a chance of success. In spite of his skilful manœuvring, and of the splendid endurance of his troops, he was forced nearer and nearer to Paris. At last, while he was engaged with a mere fraction of the allied host, the bulk of it marched past his flank and stormed the lines in front of the French capital (April 4, 1814). On the news of the fall of Paris, Napoleon's own marshals refused to persist in the hopeless struggle, and compelled their master to lay down his arms and abdicate. In the rage of the moment the emperor swallowed poison, but his