

of Louis XVI. became King of France under the title of Louis XVIII. Napoleon was allowed to retain the title of Emperor, and had the island of Elba assigned to him as a territory, with an income of £40,000 from the treasury of France.

62. During the years 1812-14, England was engaged in an unpleasant conflict with the United States of America. The trade of America had greatly suffered from the Berlin Decrees of Napoleon and the retaliatory Orders in Council of Great Britain, particularly from the latter, because they were more generally and rigorously enforced. Great offence was also given to the Americans by the right claimed and exercised by England of searching American vessels for French goods and warlike stores, as well as for deserters from the royal navy. England revoked her Orders in Council, so far as the United States were concerned, in June 1812, but that country had already declared war. The ensuing conflict was one of alternating success. The Americans invaded Canada, but were driven back after suffering serious repulses, principally from the Canadian militia. The British forces captured Washington, but tarnished their victory by burning the most important public buildings of the American capital. New Orleans, however, was successfully defended, and the English troops under General Pakenham were repulsed with great loss. At sea, the Americans gained some decided advantages; though towards the close of the war, the capture of the United States frigate *Chesapeake* by the British man-of-war *Shannon* did something to restore our reputation for naval supremacy. The war was ended by the *Treaty of Ghent*, signed December 24th, 1814. Strange to say, the treaty made no mention of the matters in which the war had originated!

War with
the United
States.

63. In January 1815, representatives of the allied Powers met at Vienna to discuss some matters which the Treaty of Paris had left unsettled. In March their deliberations were broken up by the startling intelligence that Napoleon, on the first day of that month, had landed at Cannes on the coast of France. So warmly was the ex-Emperor welcomed by his old soldiers and the people of France generally, that on the 20th of March the Bourbon King, Louis XVIII., was obliged to flee from Paris. Napoleon soon found himself restored to his capital, and at the head of a splendid though not a very large army.

Napoleon
returns
from Elba.

64. Wellington, who in return for his services in the Peninsular War had been created a Duke, and received a grant of £400,000, was in attendance at the Congress of Vienna when Napoleon landed from Elba. He at once hastened to Belgium, and placed himself at the head of the British and allied troops in that country. His army numbered about 80,000 men, while

Battle of
Waterloo.