

reign ; but it was not an easy thing to do, because all those persons who had large estates in the colonies, and who had bought slaves to cultivate the land, had paid a great deal of money for their slaves ; and the masters were afraid they should be ruined if the slaves were set free, as there would be no one to sow and dig their fields.

There is no doubt the Parliament and people of England acted wisely in wiping away so great a disgrace as *slavery* is ; and in order to do this with justice they paid a very large sum of money—twenty millions of pounds. When this was at last done, the slaves were made free.

There was a very sudden revolution in France at the beginning of this reign. It only lasted three days, and was called the “Three Days’ Revolution.” Charles X., the king of France, was expelled, and came over to this country ; his cousin Louis Philippe was then chosen by the French people to be their king, and was called the King of the French.

The example of France was followed in Belgium, a country which had been joined to Holland, so as to make but one kingdom, over which the Dutch King reigned. The Belgians fought hard, and succeeded in completely driving away the Dutch ; after which they invited Prince Leopold of Saxe Coburg to be their king. Although Prince Leopold would not be king of Greece, he accepted the kingdom of Belgium ; and he afterwards married the Princess Louise, daughter of Louis Philippe, the new king of the French. He reigned a long time, and was succeeded by his son Leopold II.

I will now tell you of some improvements that were made in this reign, the principal of which is