



LOUIS-PHILIPPE I

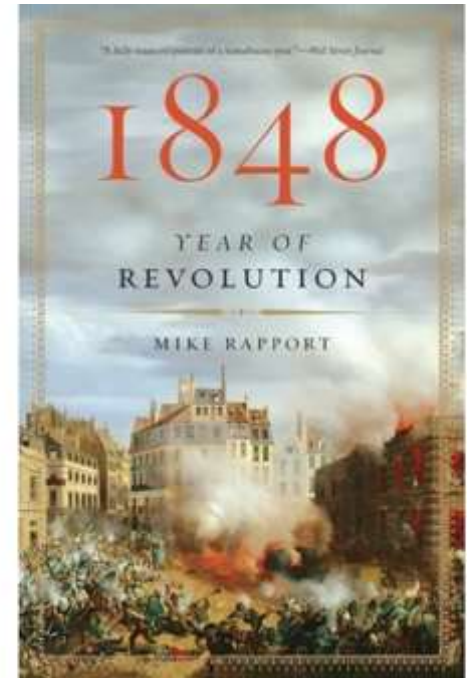
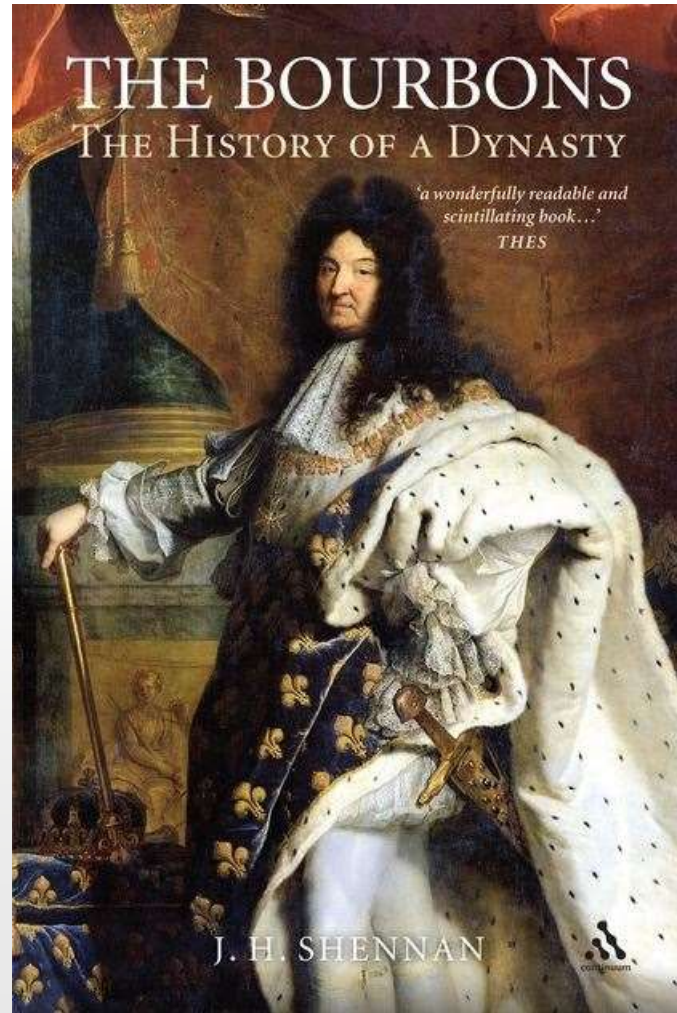
“We are the last possible kings”

JONATHAN FENBY
THE
HISTORY
— OF —
MODERN
FRANCE



*'A tumultuous study ...
bringing historic figures
to life with vivid details'*
Sunday Times

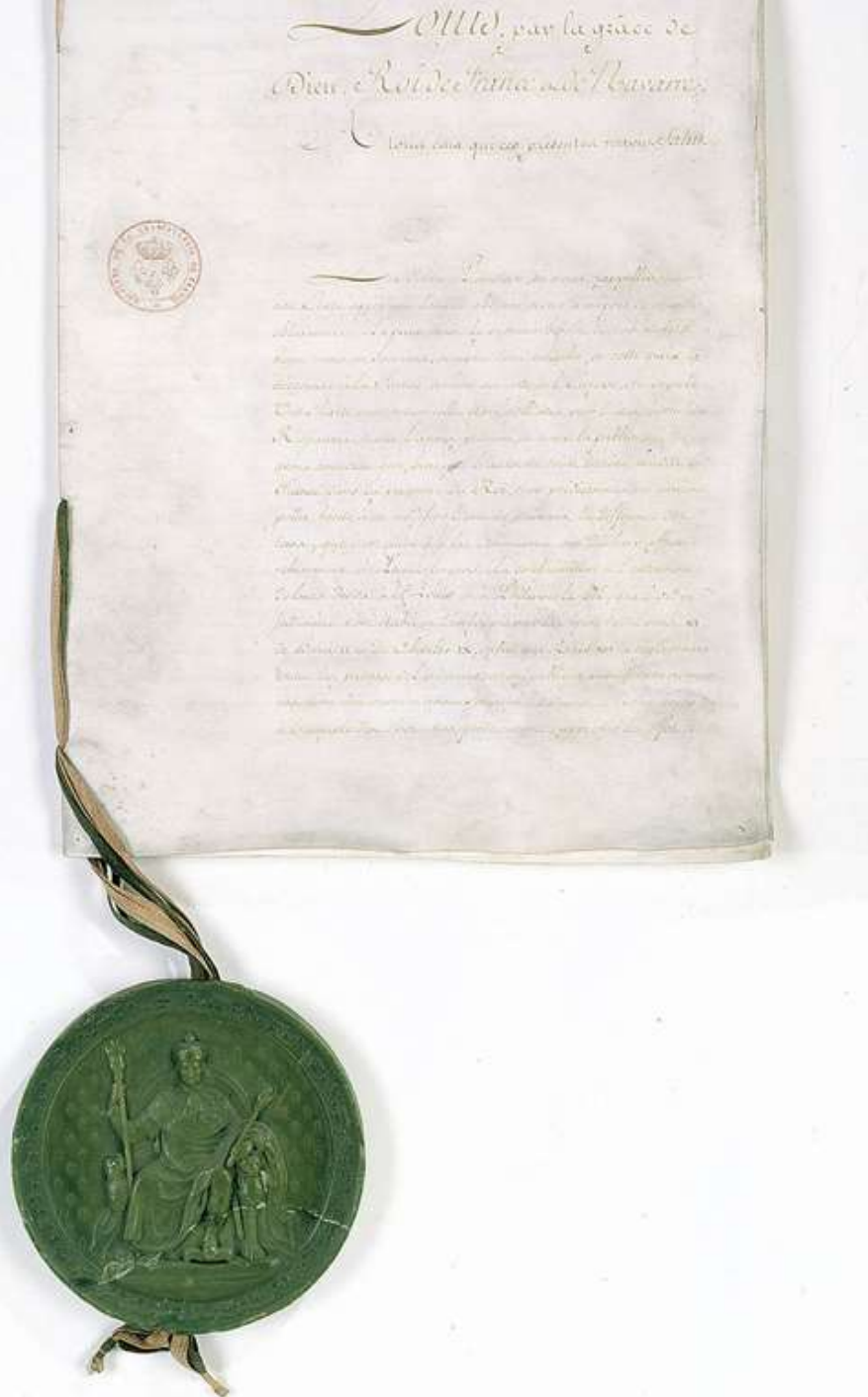
FROM THE
REVOLUTION
TO THE
WAR ON
TERROR





July 1830: Charles X chose to govern by
ordinances

1. Censorship of the press re-established
2. the newly elected chamber dissolved
3. reform of the electoral system
4. New elections called for September 1830



**Article 14 of the Charter (Constitution)
granted by his brother, Louis XVIII, in 1814**

*“The king is the **supreme head of the state...** and
makes necessary regulations and ordinances for
the execution of the laws and the security of the
state”*

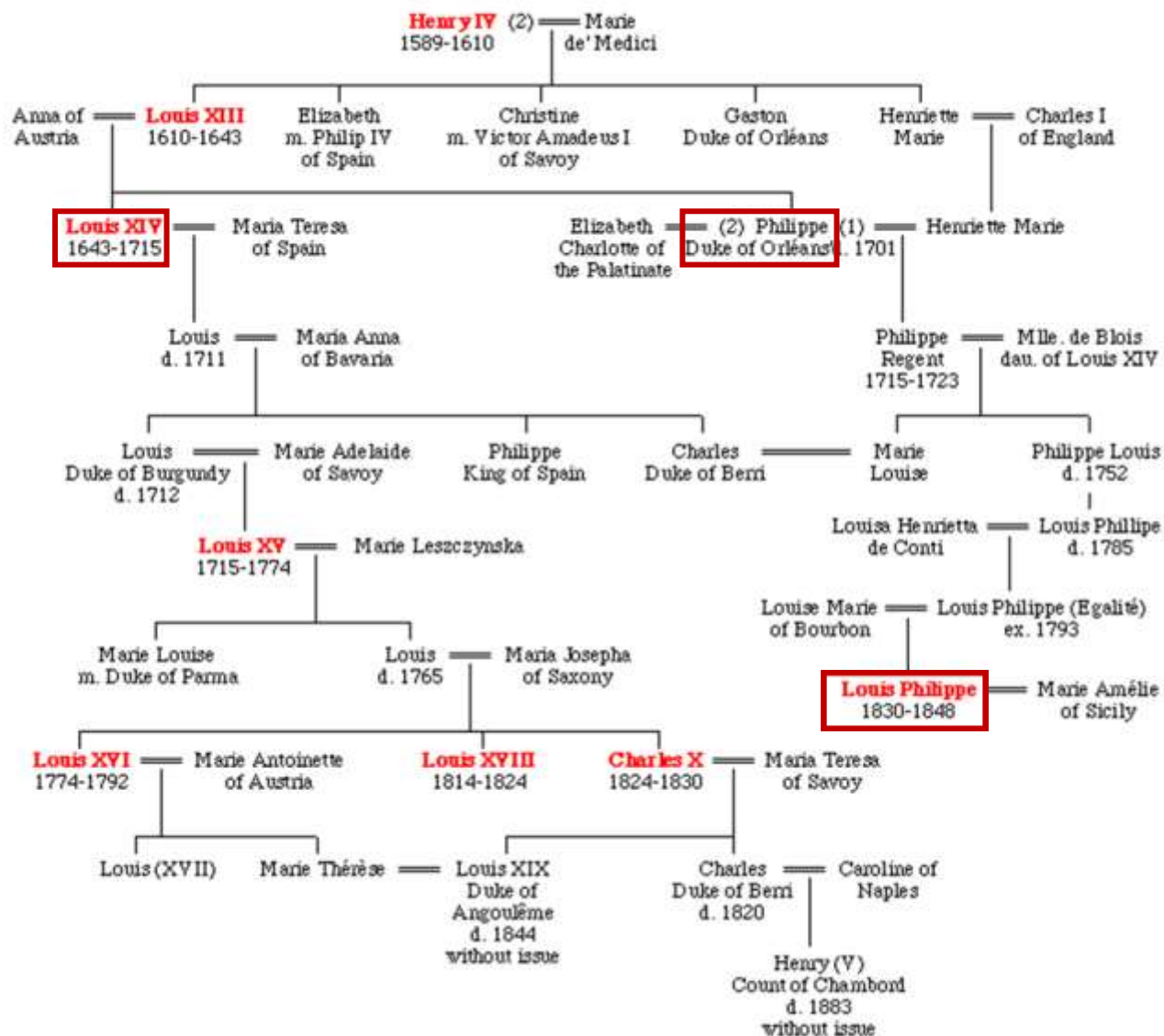


The July Revolution of 1830



Charles X in residence at **Saint-Cloud**

30 July: royal troops in full retreat
Louis-Philippe (Duke of Orléans)
proclaimed "*Lieutenant général du royaume*"





Louis-Philippe's
father voted
Louis XVI's
death

Lack of support from the
senior branch of the House
of Bourbon

Louis-Philippe always seen as
an usurper





Initially **favorable** to the French Revolution,
Louis-Philippe left France in 1793 for
Switzerland

Appointed **professor** of geography, history,
mathematics and foreign languages at a boys'
boarding school









1809: Louis-Philippe married **Maria-Amelia of Naples & Sicily** (niece of Marie-Antoinette)

Spirit of **reconciliation**



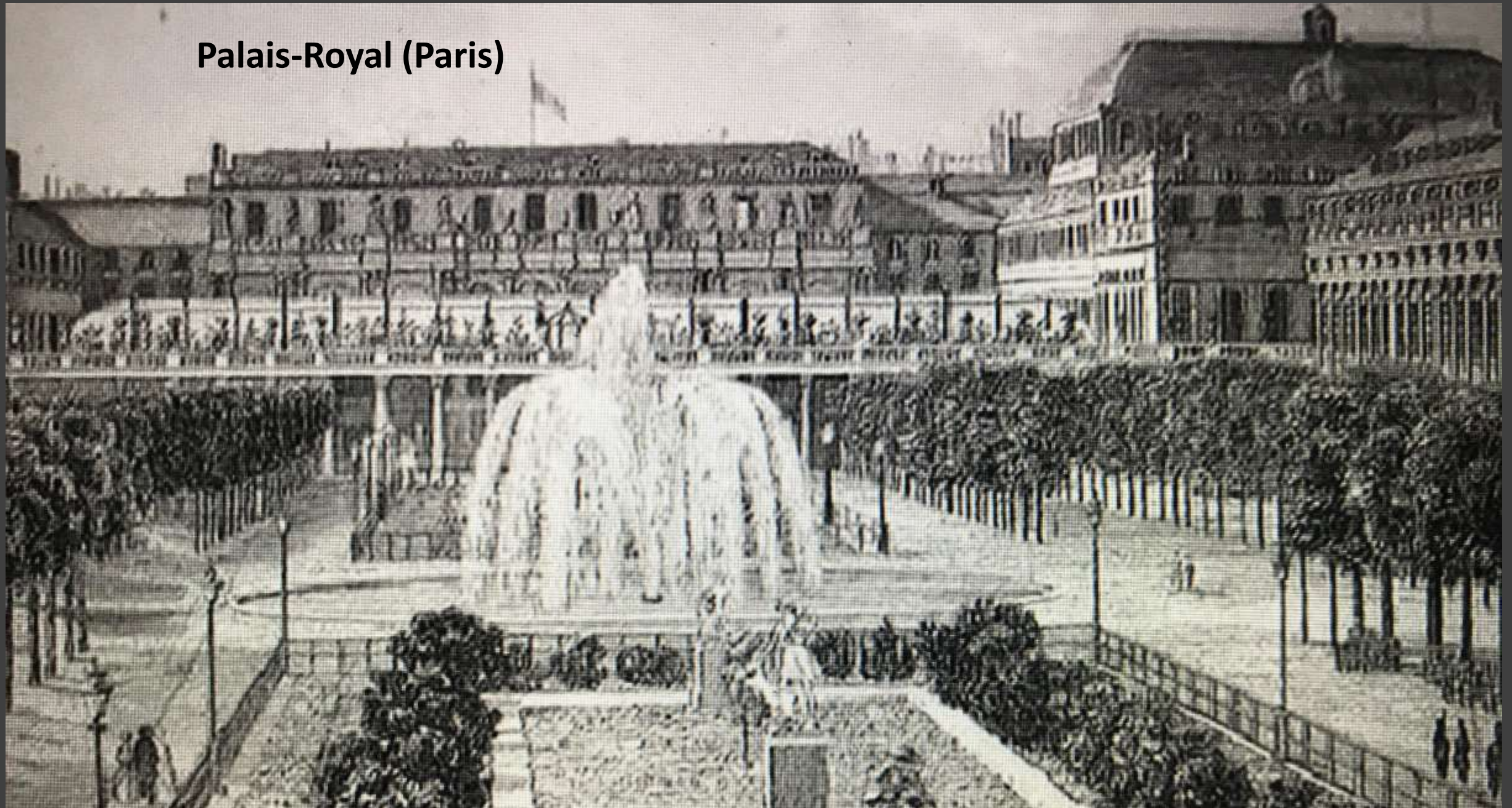
Return to France in 1814

Growing popularity (Liberal
ideas)

Management of his
considerable wealth but
image of simplicity



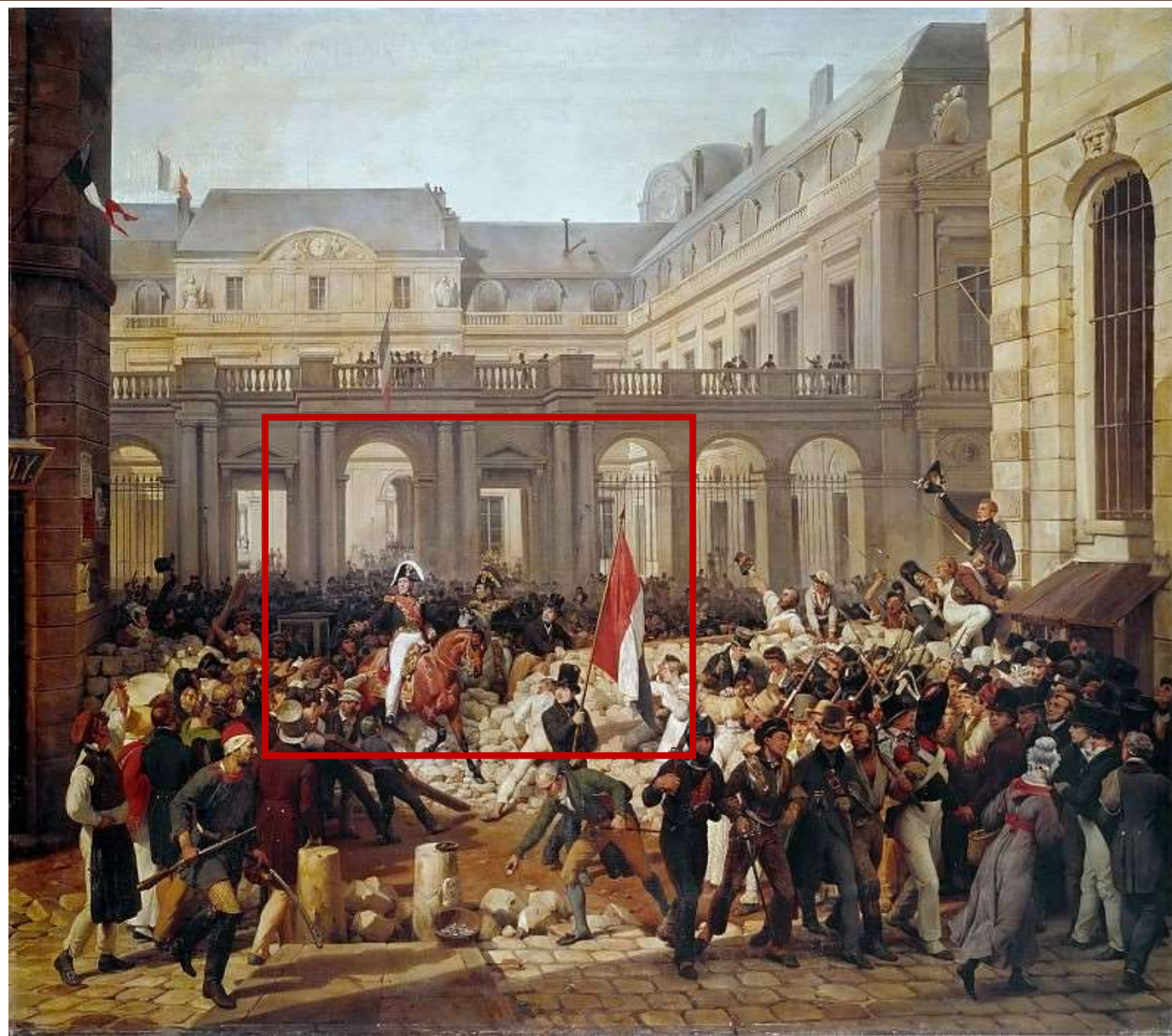
Palais-Royal (Paris)





Louis-Philippe leaving the Palais-Royal to go to the Hôtel de Ville (city hall) of Paris on 31 July 1830
Horace Vernet

Propaganda masterpiece aimed at **legitimizing** the transfer of power to Louis-Philippe





Louis-Philippe portrayed wearing a uniform (victorious war leader)

Reminder of his military role during the French Revolution

The Palais-Royal (residence of the Orléans family) in the background bathed in bright light like a temple

Palais-Royal before the 1830 Revolution: a **centre for political opposition** to Charles X



The French flag (red, white & blue)
on display (symbol of the French
Revolution)

The message: Louis-Philippe is the
heir of the French Revolution vs.
Charles X and the royal white flag

The image of a soft transition: no
barricades, no dust. White
cobblestones on display like a theater
set





A jubilant crowd. A diverse crowd to emphasize unity despite different social statuses

NOT the reality!

Louis-Philippe widely criticized by revolutionaries (mostly republicans) for high jacking the Revolution





France reconciled

A scene of national **reconciliation**

Hands and arms stretched out towards the savior (Louis-Philippe)

Image of **warmth and friendliness** amongst participants (despite different social statuses)

Eclectic armaments (like a carnival)

The presence of women

Small group at the forefront is walking on cobblestoned street (symbol of rebuilt France following the Revolution)



The true hero of the scene: the member of the national guard in blue and white uniform

The national guard dissolved by Charles X in 1827

The role of the national guard **exaggerated** in order to minimize the importance of the workers and craftsmen (often republicans)

The national guard: the guardian of the new regime



Louis-Philippe
taking the oath
to uphold the
Charter

9 August 1830: Louis-Philippe proclaimed *“king of the French”* (not king of France) *“by the grace of God and the will of the people”*



What happened to
Charles X?



Left Saint-Cloud for Rambouillet (45km southwest of
Paris)

Decision **to abdicate** in favor of his grandson



Louis-Philippe as regent?

Louis-Philippe to Charles X: an army of Parisians
marching on Rambouillet
The royal family in danger

Charles X fled to England

A fragile legitimacy

Numerous plots and
assassination attempts

Secret Republican
societies instigating
violent social unrest

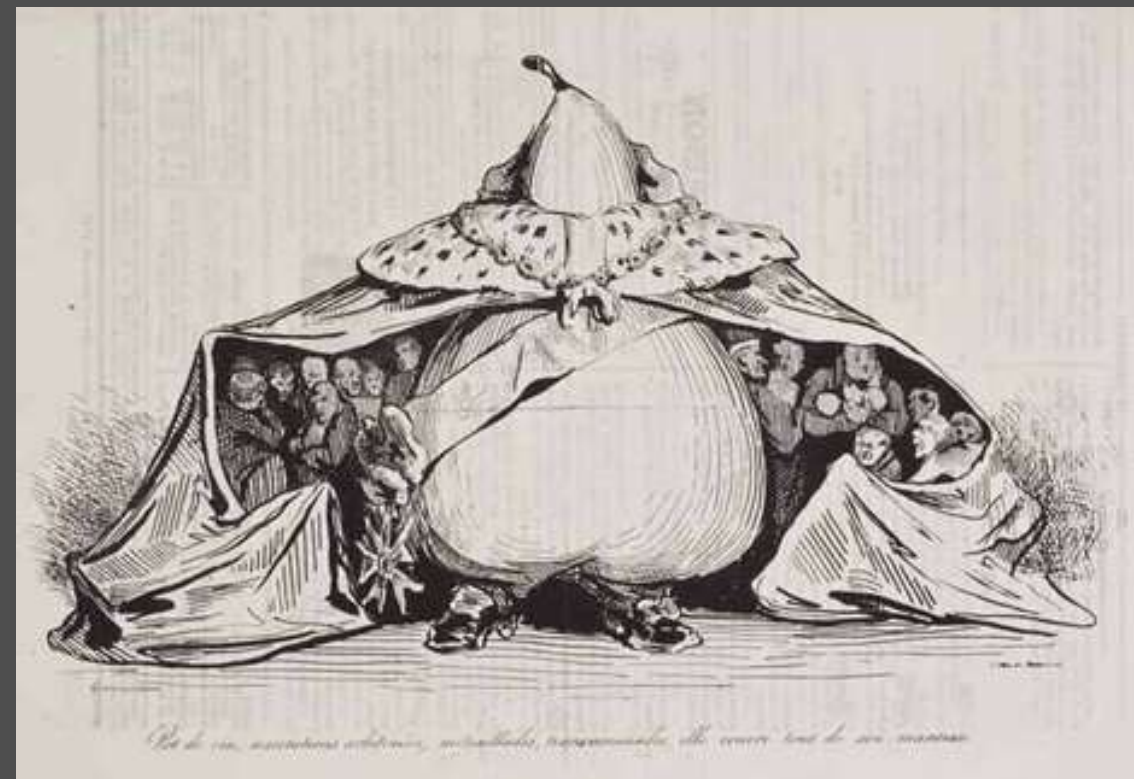
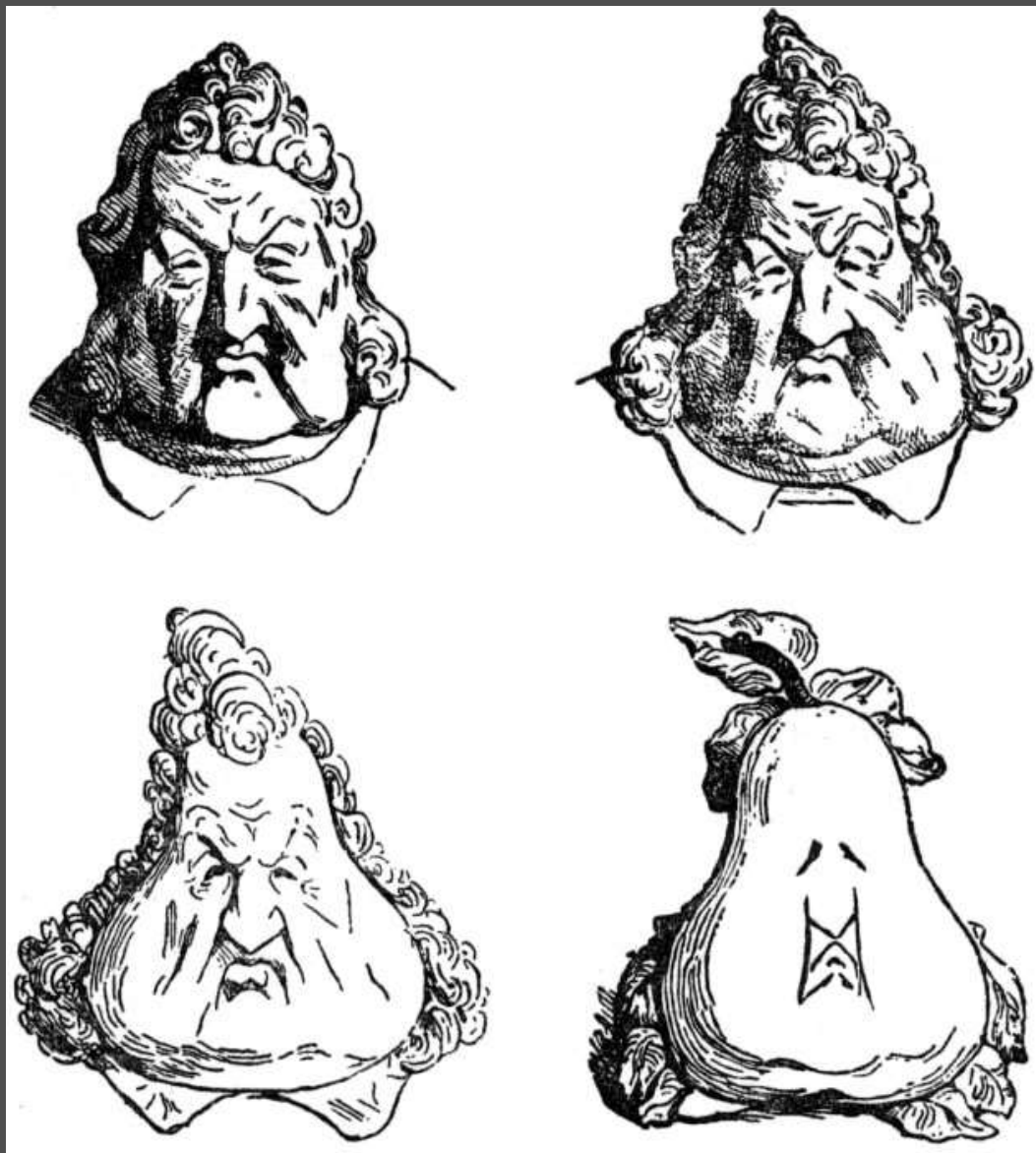
Caricatures





The June 1832 Paris anti-monarchist uprising

The spark: the funeral of a popular army commander critical of the monarchy
Fractions of the **National Guard** joined the rioters



Un de ces monuments colossaux, inimitables, représentant les œuvres de la main humaine.



1832: failed insurrection led by
Duchess of Berry (mother of the
rightful heir to the throne)



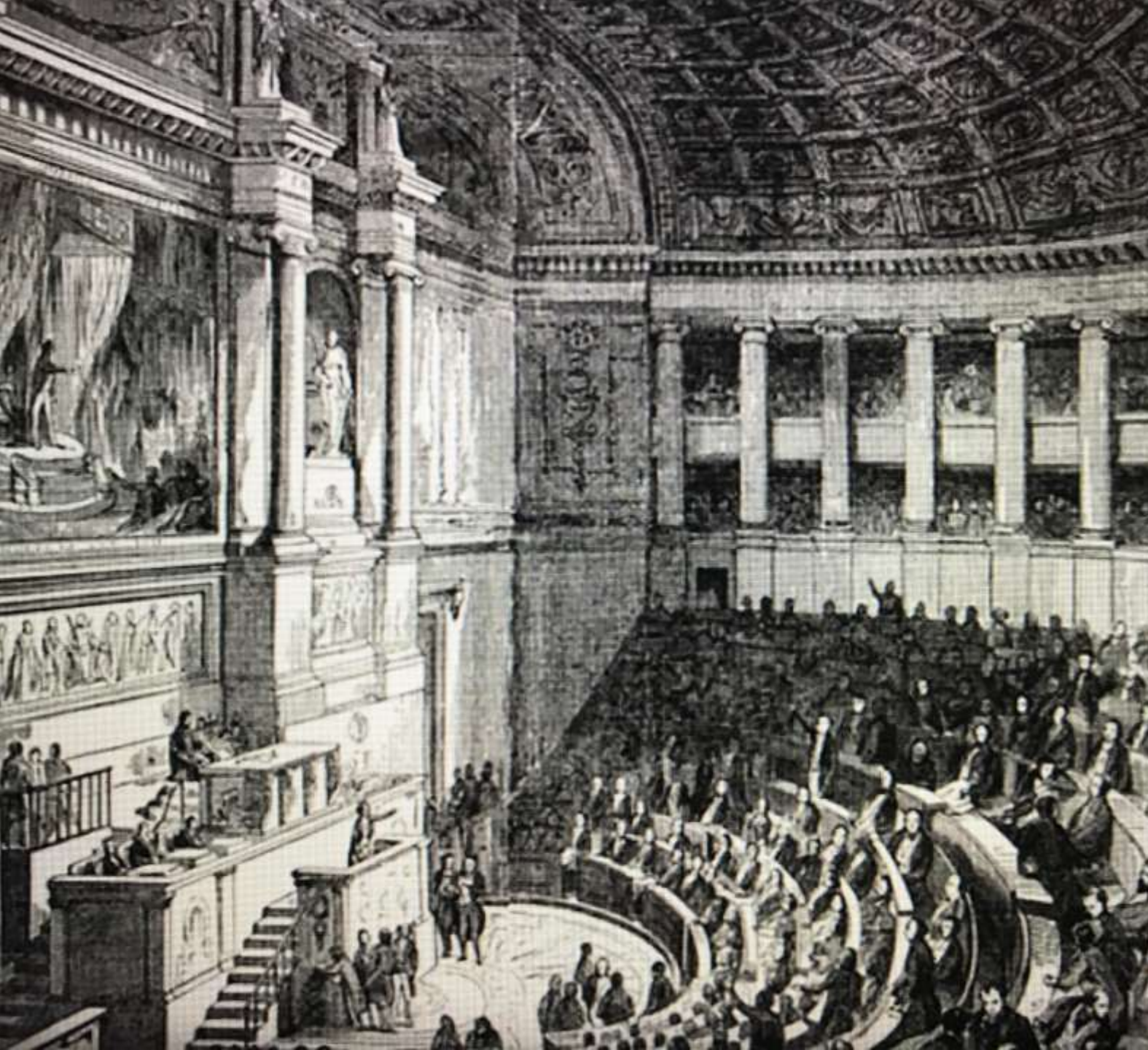
Two failed coups launched by **Louis-Napoleon Bonaparte** (1836 & 1840)

How to govern?

To remain at **the centre**
To play one political
faction against another

Pre-eminence of the king
and the executive branch
over parliament





Louis-Philippe reigned
AND governed

A potential danger for
the regime


Département de la Côte-d'Or.

CARTE D'ÉLECTEUR

POUR LE COLLÈGE DU QUATRIÈME ARRONDISSEMENT ÉLECTORAL

NOM ET PRÉNOMS	QUALIFICATIONS	DATE	LIEU	DOMICILE	
		de l'ouverture du collège.	de la réunion du collège.	CADRE.	
<i>Deschamps, Pierre</i> (Décedé)	<i>Cultivateur</i>	9 Juillet 1842.	SEUR. - Salle de l'ex-dépot de mendicité.	<i>Flavigny</i>	

Dijon, le 20 Juin 1842.

 Le Pair de France, Préfet de la Côte-d'Or
H. de Chaboulot



Only the wealthiest
still able to vote

168 000 electors (5 electors for every 1 000 people)



France's **political instability**

Louis-Philippe's **primary objective**: to repair & to **reconciliate** the French with their past



Louis-Philippe: what to do with
Versailles?

What function other than royal
residence?

France politically divided since
1789

The Tuileries Palace (Paris)



Louis-Philippe deeply
involved in the
restoration of Versailles

398 visits in 4 years





Louis-Philippe: transforming the symbol of absolute monarchy into a **national monument of reconciliation**

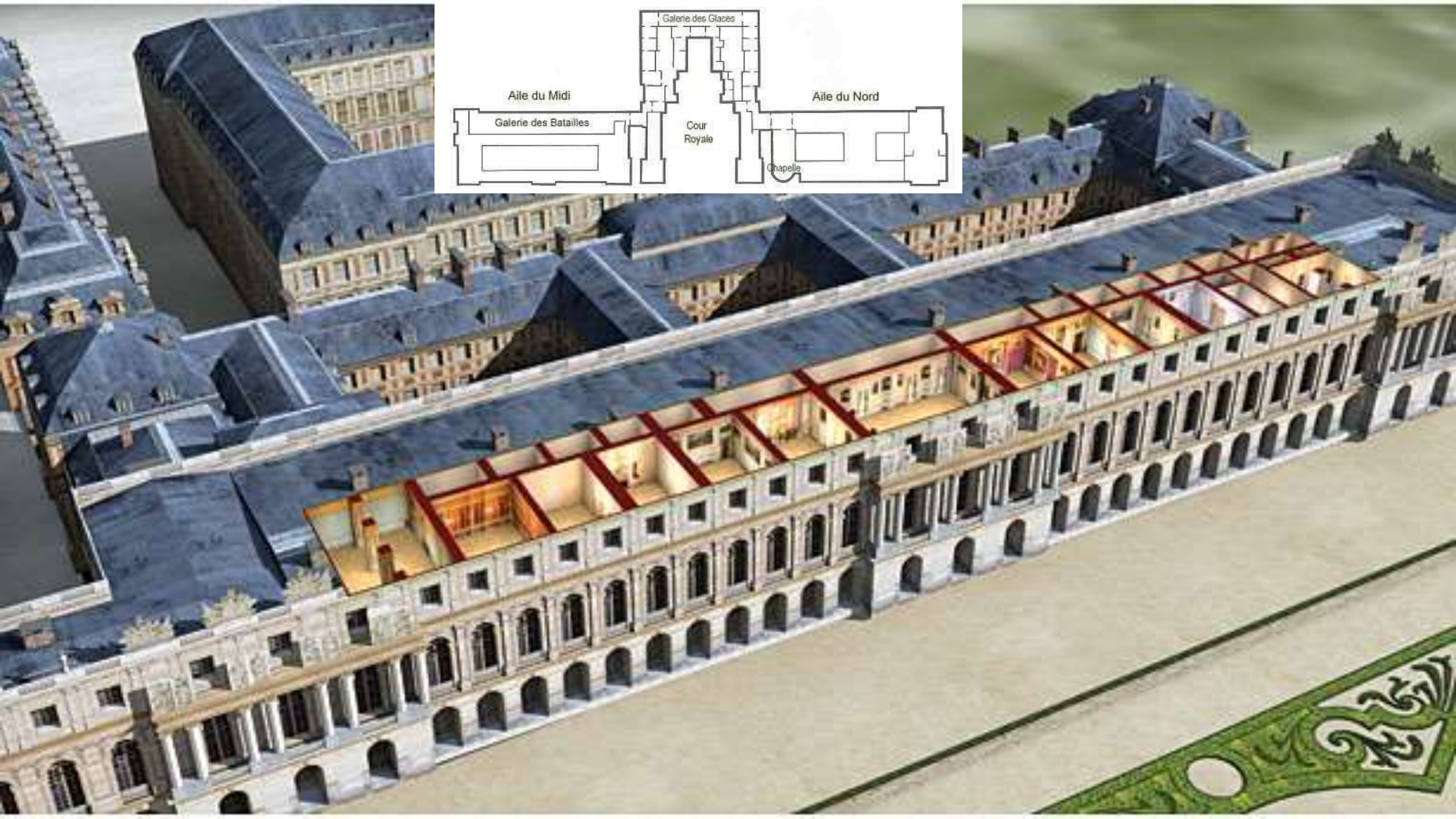
Versailles dedicated to « *all the glories of France* »

"Louis Philippe has done a great thing at Versailles. [...] He has given this magnificent book that is the History of France, a magnificent binding called Versailles." (Victor Hugo)



Louis-Philippe: the “savior of Versailles”?

Yes, but at what cost?



The gallery of battles: 33 large paintings – No battle post 1809 (the image of a peace-loving monarch)
Political message: the French reconciled under the leadership of Louis-Philippe





Philippe-Auguste at the Battle of
Bouvines (1214): the unifying king



Henri IV liberating Paris from
the Spaniards (1593)





The **Crusades Rooms**: a tribute to the **Legitimist**
(faithful to the senior branch of the House of Bourbon)
aristocracy







The **1792 Room**: the fall of the monarchy & the first victories against European monarchies

To please the
Republicans



The **1830 Room**: Louis-Philippe's
legitimacy

**Glorifying his sons' military involvement
(conquest of Algeria)**

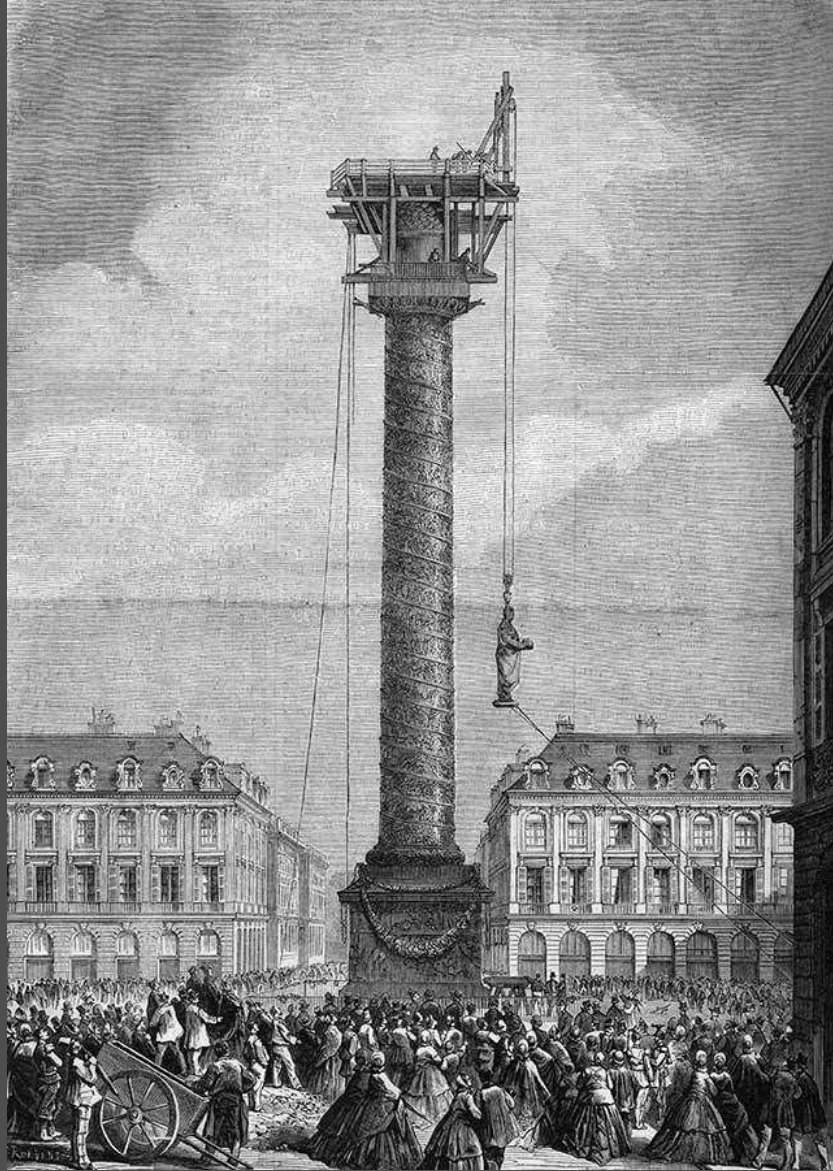




The Empire Rooms



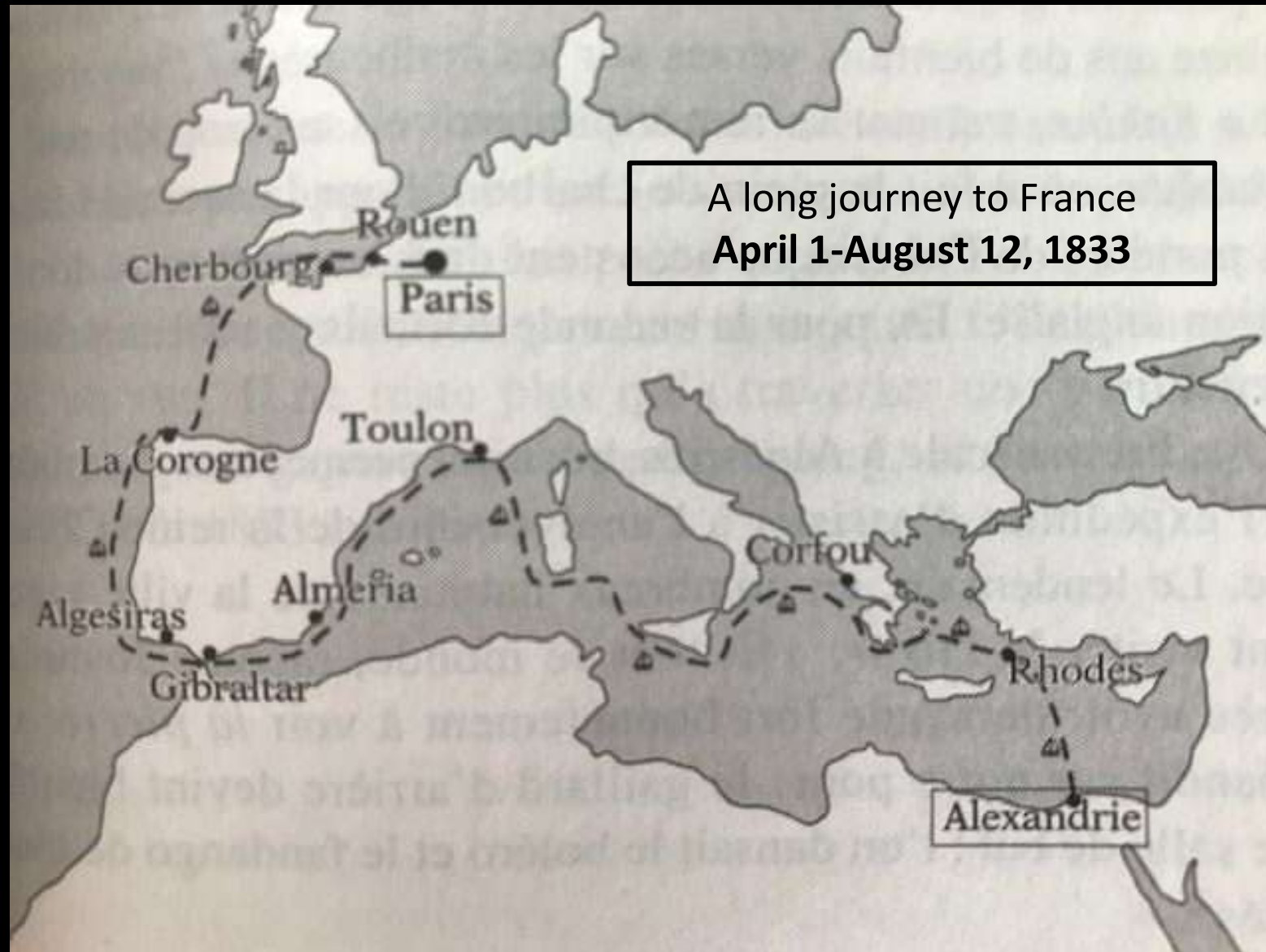
To obtain the support of Napoleon's aristocracy and Bonapartist circles



15 December 1840: the return of Napoleon's ashes





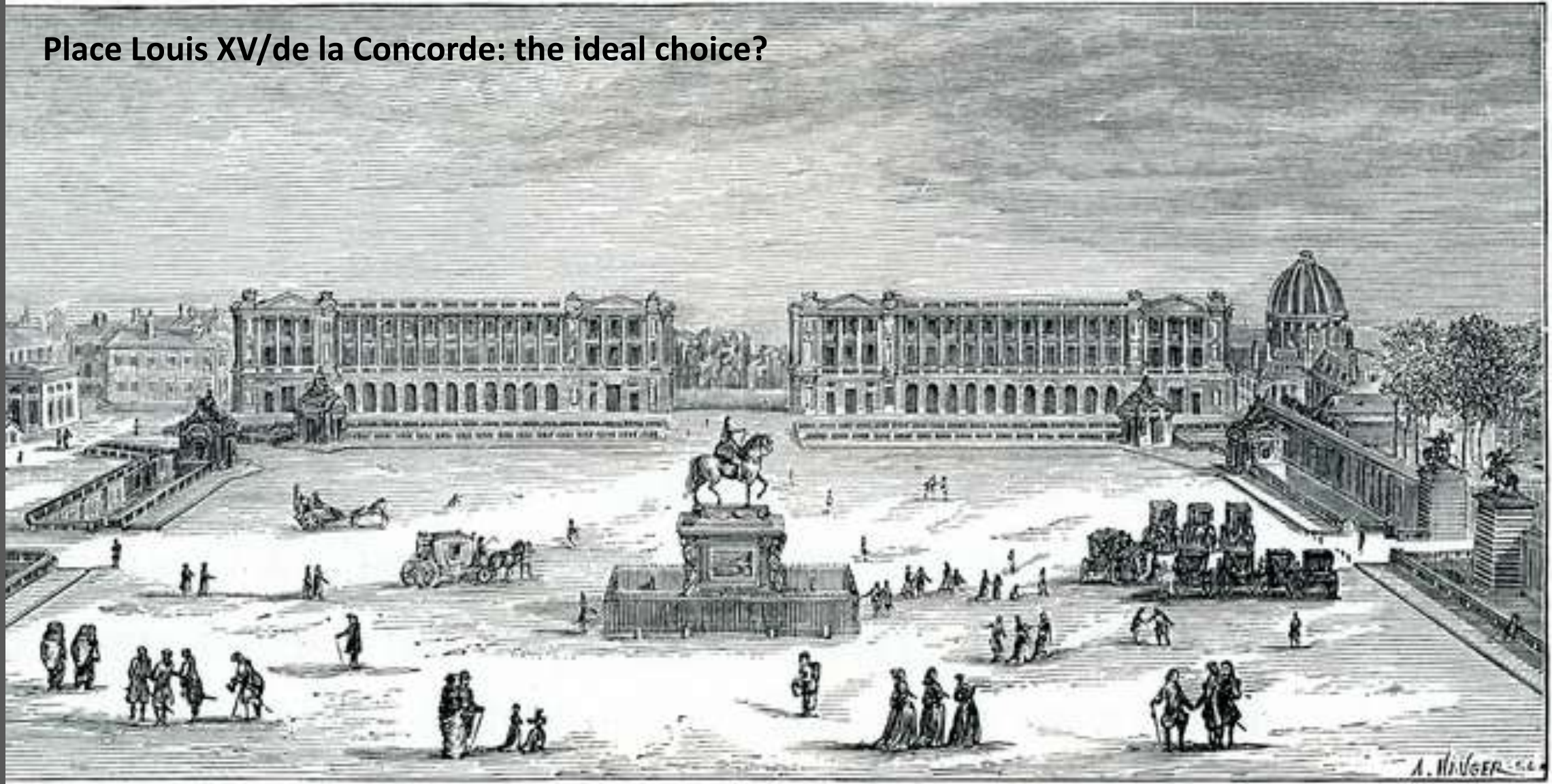




The captain &
officers of the
Luxor invited at
the Tuileries
Palace

The **next step**:
where in Paris
should the
obelisk be
erected?

Place Louis XV/de la Concorde: the ideal choice?

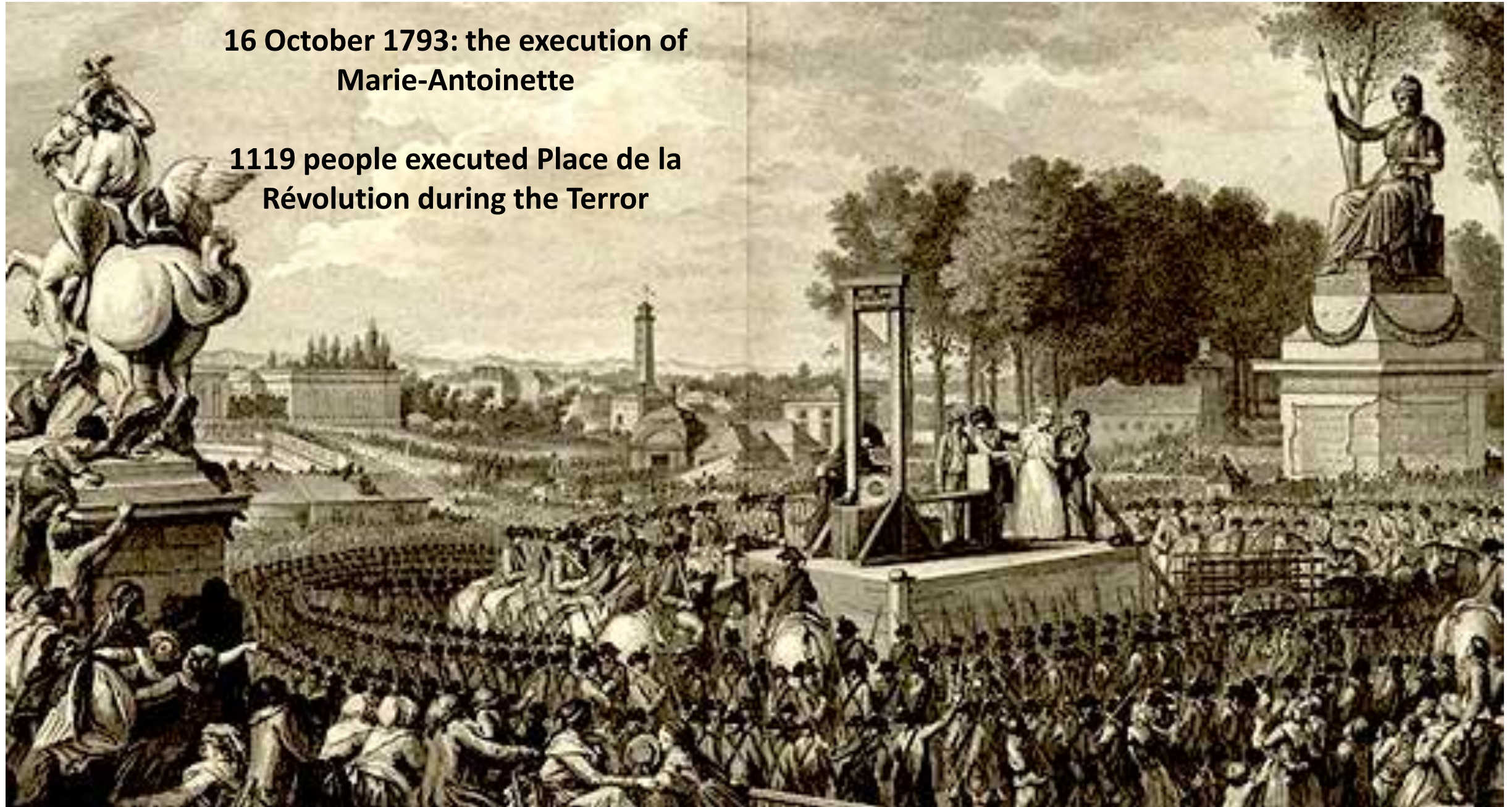


21 January 1793: the execution of Louis XVI
Louis-Philippe's father voted the death of his cousin



**16 October 1793: the execution of
Marie-Antoinette**

**1119 people executed Place de la
Révolution during the Terror**



The Bourbon Restoration (1814-1830): project of a monument in honor of Louis XVI

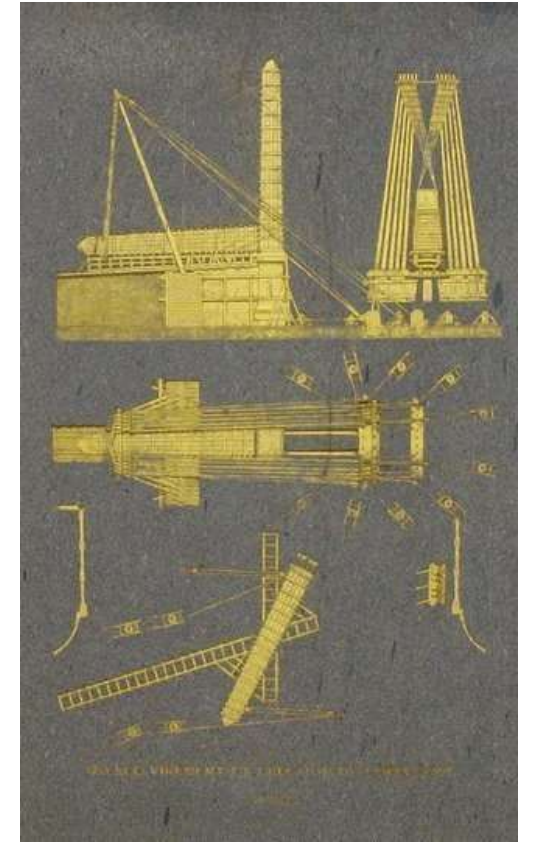
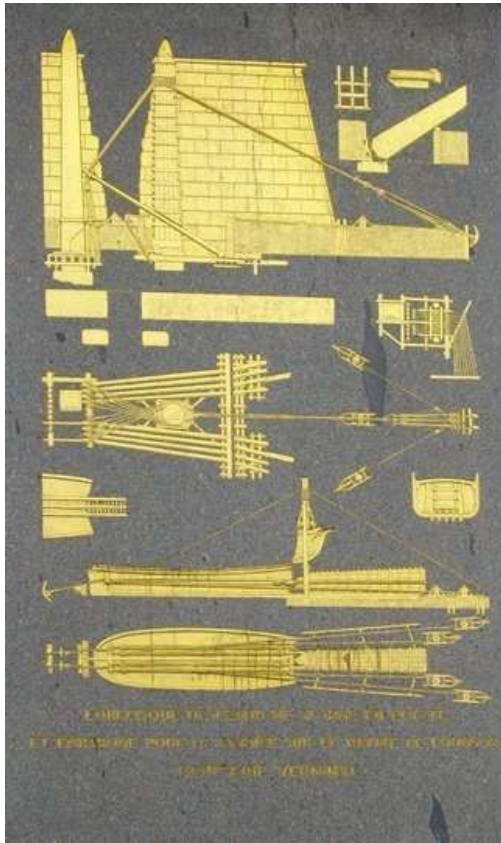
1830: only the pedestal erected





Louis-Philippe: the obelisk as a **neutral monument**

The Obelisk as *“neither an accusation, nor a threat, a memorial or recrimination”*



A massive, yet simple pedestal (same type of granite): the obelisk **to dominate** its surroundings
Gold representations of the apparatus used to lower the obelisk, transport it and then raise it in Paris

25 October 1836: the erection of the obelisk *Place de la Concorde*
200 000 Parisians and the royal family in attendance

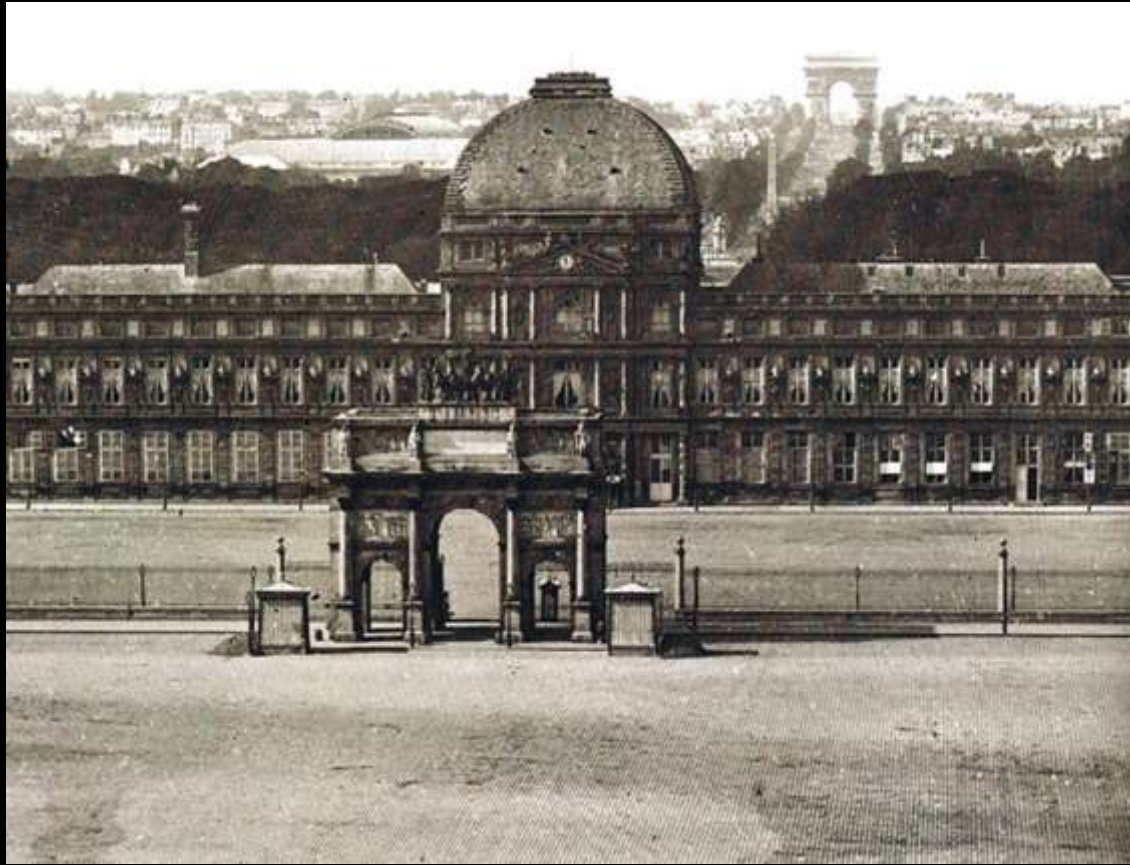


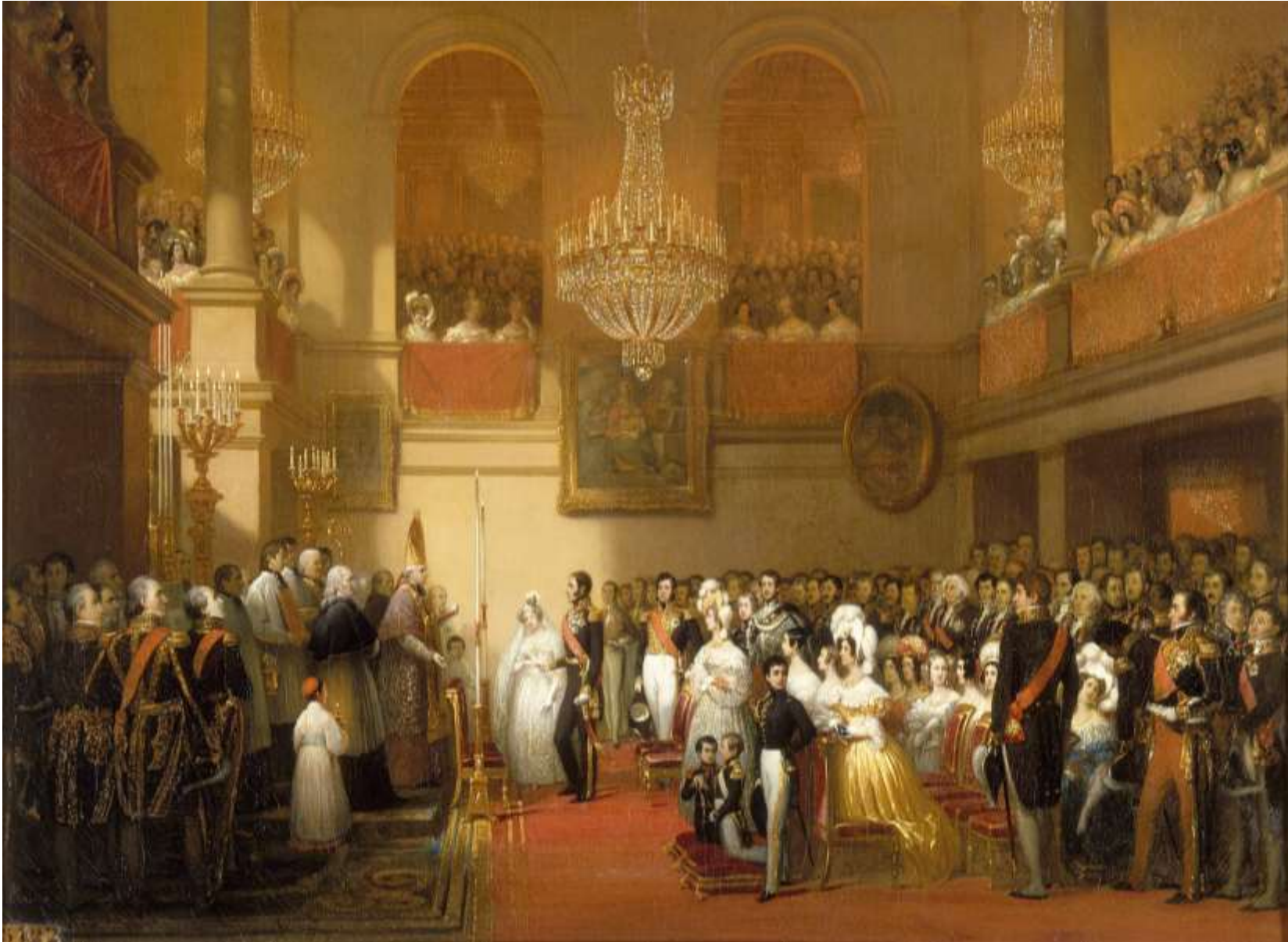


**First public
appearance for the
King since
assassination attempt**

Louis-Philippe
unable to attend the
inauguration of the
Arc de Triomphe (29
July 1836)







**A peace-loving
monarch**

The priority in
1830: **to
reassure &
appease Europe**

To be
acknowledge as
a legitimate king

France to act as a peace-loving nation in Europe

First diplomatic crisis: the **independence of Belgium**
(1830)

Principle of “non-intervention”

Military intervention against the Netherlands to guarantee Belgium’s independence

Marriage of his daughter Louise to Leopold of Saxe-Coburg



Entente Cordiale with
Great Britain?

1843: Victoria's visit to
Louis-Philippe at Eu
(Normandy)







Jean Alaux, Réception de la reine Victoria au Tréport



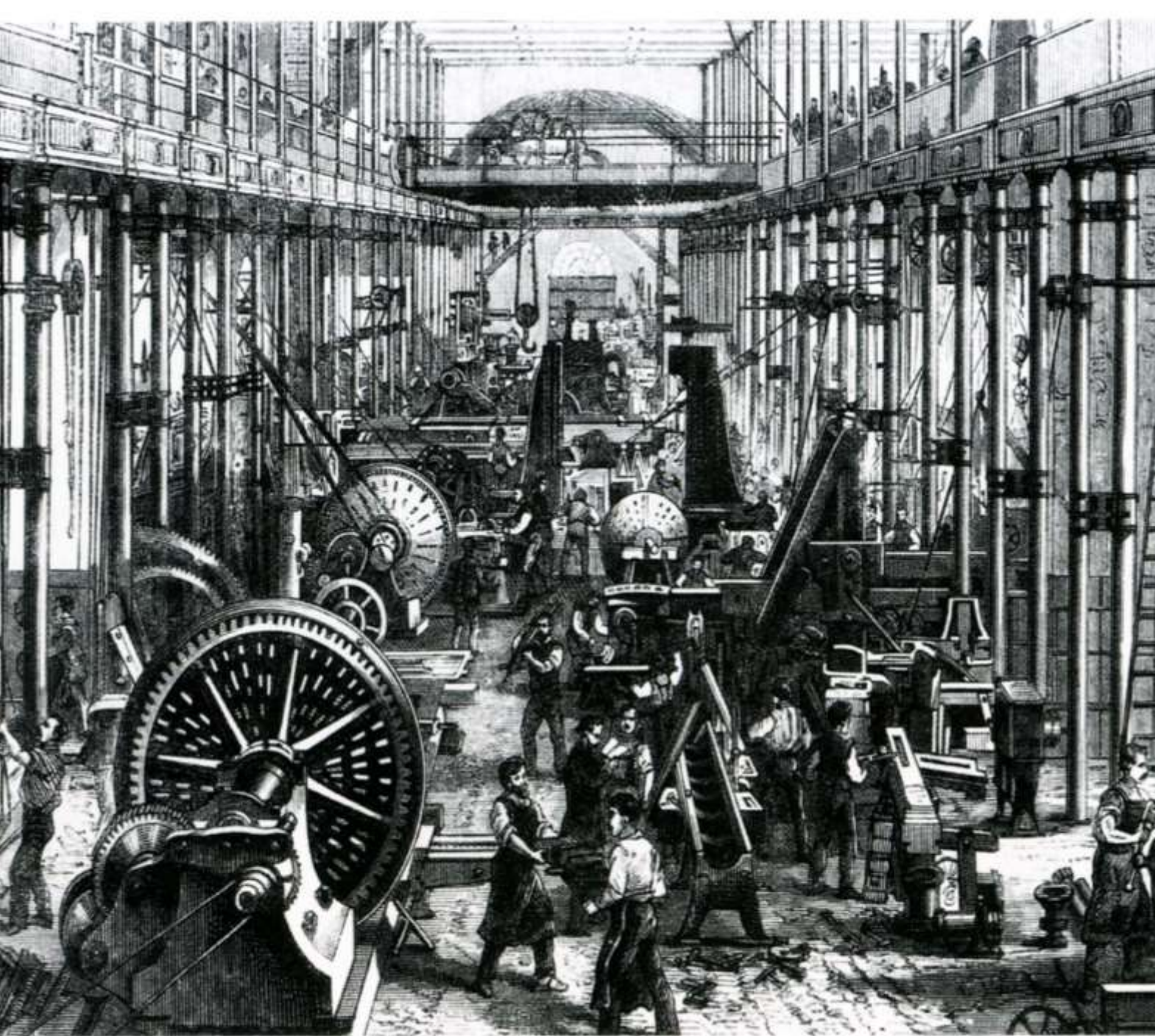
1842: the accidental death of his eldest son &
heir (Ferdinand-Philippe)

A popular prince & the hope of the dynasty

Louis-Philippe after
1842: sad and
nostalgic

Growing **political
conservatism**





Industrial Revolution and
the emergence of a
working class

Faulty social laws (the
rise of Socialism & calls
for a republic)

1847: industrial &
financial crisis



1847: the death of his sister Adelaide (a trusted political advisor)



Lack of reforms: growing
resentment towards
Louis-Philippe's political
conservatism

Calls for **electoral reform**
ignored

22 February 1848: a campaign
of political banquets (public
reunions) outlawed

Riots: Louis-Philippe called the
army and the National Guard to
restore order in Paris





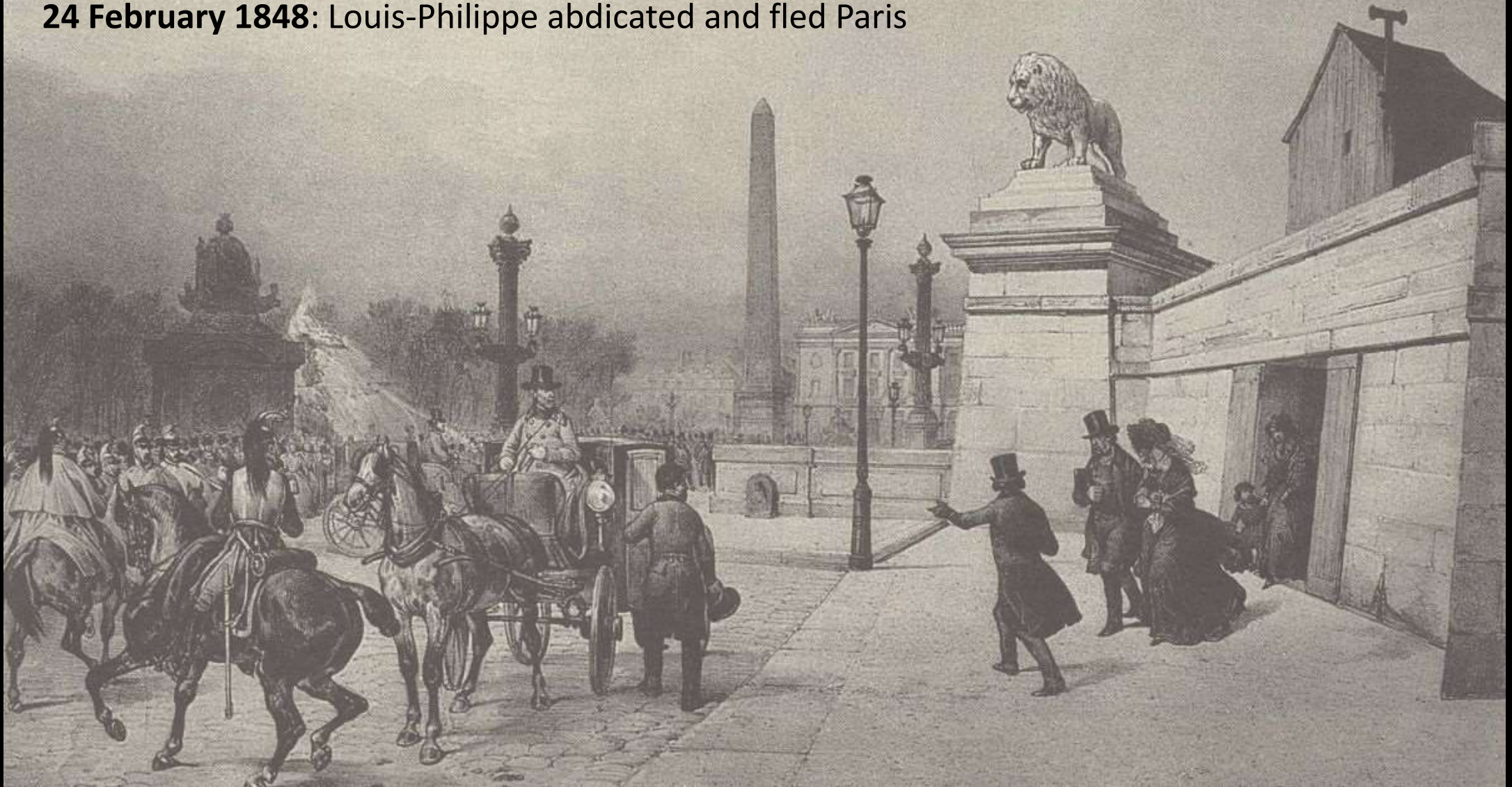
23 February: the National
Guard fraternized with
the rioters

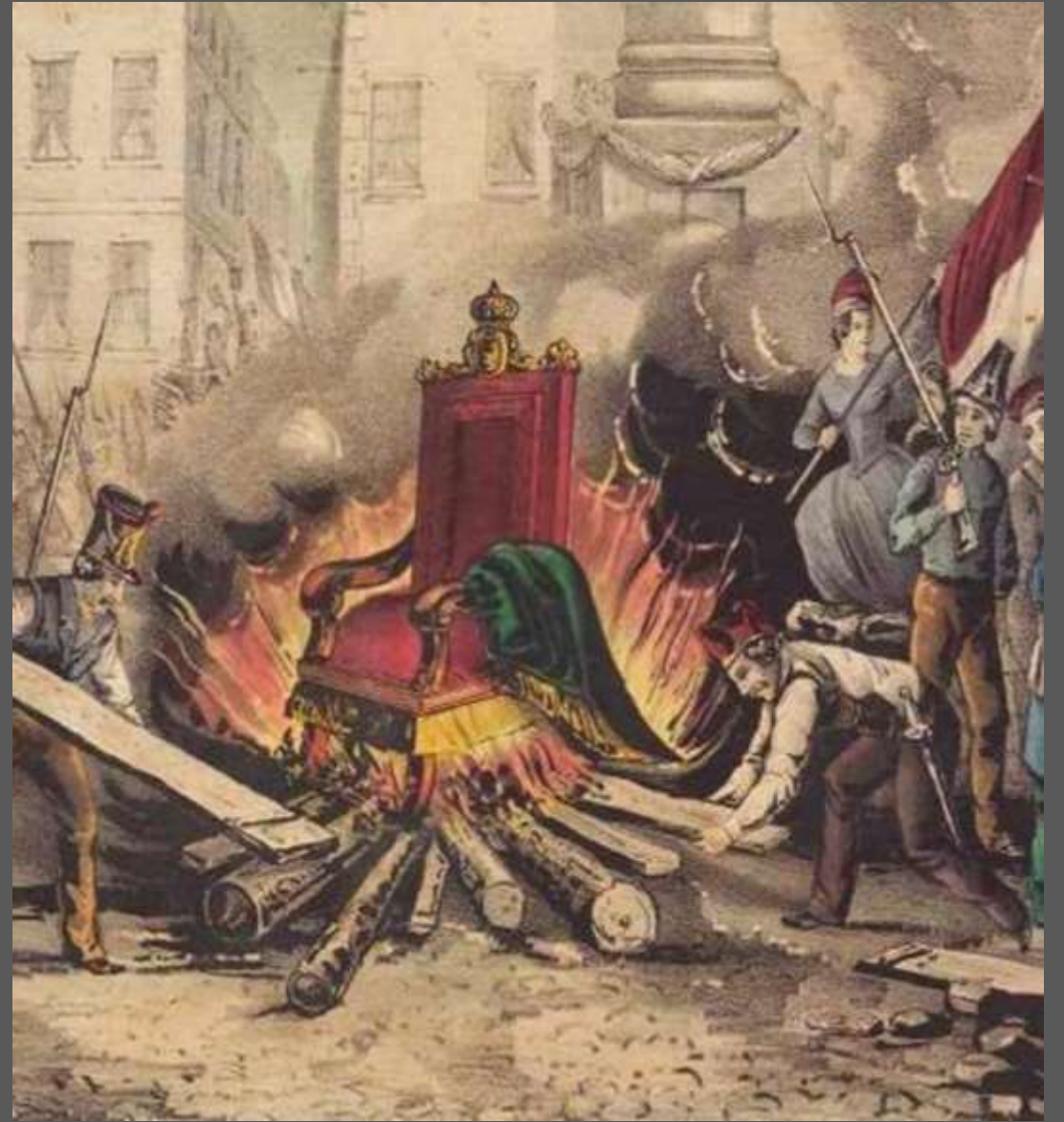
Louis-Philippe hesitant &
discouraged

A new government but
too late!



24 February 1848: Louis-Philippe abdicated and fled Paris





25 February 1848:
proclamation of the republic



Lamartine before the Hôtel de Ville, Paris, rejects the Red Flag by Henri Felix Emmanuel Philippoteaux



A provisional government led
by poet **Alphonse Lamartine**
(minister of foreign affairs)

Fragile unity: liberal republicans
vs. social republicans

What flag for the new republic?





A socialist republic?

A revolutionary (a woman) parading on a white horse and holding the red flag ("long live the republic")

Notice the red Phrygian cap (French Revolution)

Allegory representing a socialist revolution



The **integrity of the working class**: valuables from the Tuileries Palace transported to the city hall for safekeeping

A worker shot to death for stealing





A liberal republic?

An injured sculptor, the
remnants of a barricade
(the violence of the
revolution)

The French flag
represents hope for all
social classes

The unity of the nation





Poet Lamartine pointing at the French flag (*“Abolition of the death penalty”*)

No to the Red flag: the red flag represents terror, blood and a *“party’s republic”*

The message: the three-color flag is the emblem of a nation (not of a regime)



10 December 1848: the election of Louis-Napoleon Bonaparte as president of the republic





Louis-Philippe's *"great error, there it is: he has been modest in the name of France"* (Victor Hugo)