

Mexico ought to be regarded as a mistake by the French nation. Perhaps so; at any rate, the mistake is brilliant enough to outshine many similar undertakings looked upon as great successes.



BRIDGE AT PASO DEL MACHO.

POSTSCRIPT.

It is difficult to write calmly with regard to the recent events, reported, *via* New York, as having taken place in Mexico.

Although all information derived from Matamoros and Brownsville is invariably to be received with distrust, it would appear that there is now little doubt to be cast on the authenticity of the news that Queretaro has been captured by the Liberals, the Imperial cause lost, and that the brave, unfortunate Maximilian has been executed by the cowardly Juarez and his followers.

On the determination of the Emperor to fight for his Crown, unassisted by foreign support, on the departure of the French troops, the Church party rallied bravely to his side and rendered the most unqualified support, but even the acuteness of their leaders was at fault with regard to the fidelity of their colleagues.

Lopez, the General entrusted with the command of the most important outpost of Queretaro, and who, for a paltry sum, has disgraced the Mexican name by betraying the Imperial cause, had been loaded with honours and favours by the Emperor, for he ranked as an earnest supporter of the new *régime* during the French occupation,—not declaring for it latterly, as Miramon and Marquez did, on the occasion of the adherence of the Church party and the departure of the foreign troops. In fact, not a doubt could have been cast on his fidelity, and generally he must have been regarded as equally trustworthy with the unfortunate Mejia, who also fought for the Empire from the very commencement; but evidently fearing the doubtful chances of success, stimulated by the base desire of wishing to save his own skin, Lopez, by selling the key of the position to Escobedo, led to the inevitable surrender of Queretaro to the Liberals at the very moment when (if the proclamation of Maximilian may be taken as authentic) everything appeared for the moment to favour the victory of the Imperial arms.

It is impossible to paint this infamous conduct in its proper colours, and difficult to figure the frightful results.

In all probability the Mexicans themselves simply look upon Lopez as a clever turncoat, an “*hombre muy fino*,” who has played his game with skill and

forethought, for little importance is attached to treachery by them, unless it should prove unsuccessful and barren,—in that case no people are more ready to loudly condemn it; on the one hand, the unskilful perpetrator of a uselessly disgraceful act is forthwith shot like a dog, on the other, the scoundrel who succeeds is exalted as a patriot, even as a hero!

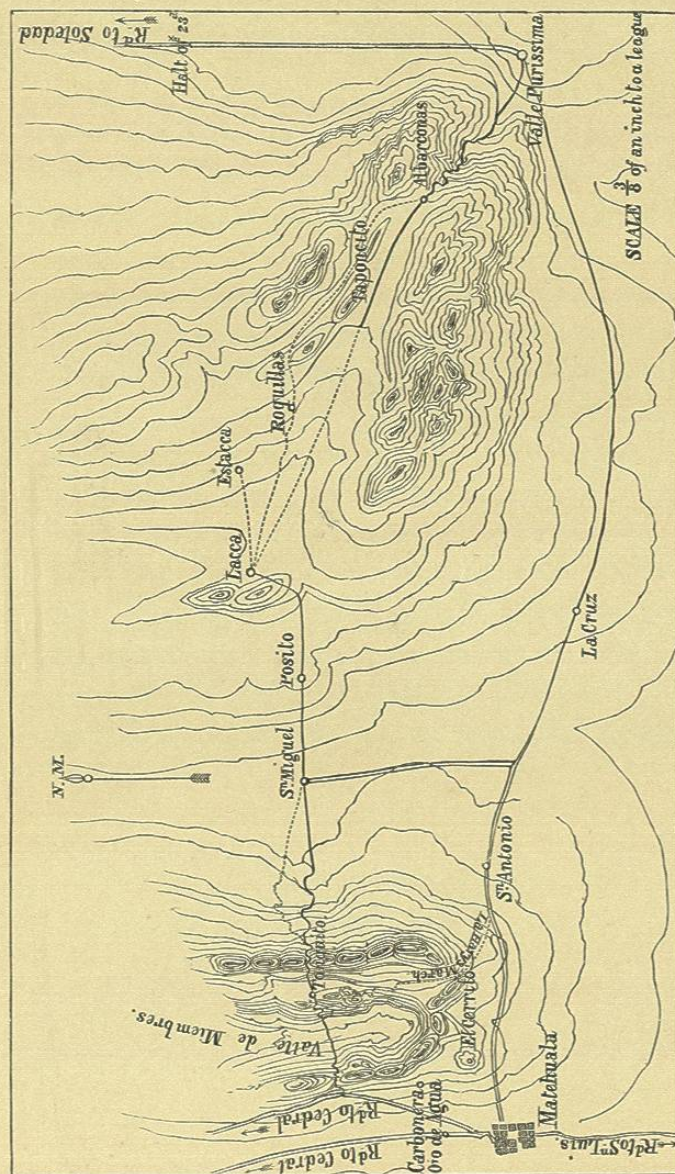
Once in the hands of the Liberals, the Imperialists had indeed but a slender chance of mercy to expect from their hands, and it is only too possible that not only the chivalrous and unfortunate Emperor has been sacrificed to the fury and lust of blood of a plebeian mob, but also much to be feared that the few Austrian and foreign officers who remained with him to the last have shared his fate.

The victim of a relentlessly pursuing fate, Maximilian has perished in consequence of his unwillingness to abandon his supporters, and avail himself of the opportunity afforded him to lay down his crown at the time of the departure of the French. To prove to the world that the chivalrous blood of the Hapsburgs ran true to all its traditions in his veins, he has sacrificed his own life and at the same time rendered the position of his party ten times worse than it was, had he, in the first instance, refused the offers of Miramon and Marquez, and left the country.

It is almost idle to imagine that the Mexicans will be punished for their unpardonable crime—the murder of Maximilian—by any European Power or Powers; but it will not be long before, in the natural course of events, the United States will overrun the country. Then the Liberals—Liberals only as far as murder, robbery, and cowardice are compromised in the interpretation of the term—will be able to judge whether the easy yoke of Maximilian and the wonderful forbearance of the French occupation are in any way comparable, in point of severity, with the avowed policy of extermination, and the stern justice of the rough-handed filibusters who, crossing the Rio Grande, will look simply on the country as a land of promise, and be ready, with fire and with sword, to take to themselves all the milk and the honey, all the corn, the wine, and the oil.

And the judgment, in this case, will be no more than strictly just.

July 4th, 1867.



VALLE DE MIEMBRES AND VALLE PURISIMA.

ADDENDA.

TABLE OF MARCHES BETWEEN VERA CRUZ AND MEXICO.

(Distances in Mexican Leagues of Four Kilometres.)

Vera Cruz to—	
Paso del Macho .	By Imperial Mexican Railroad; four or five hours' journey.
Cordova	9. Town, hotel; bad road.
Orizaba	6. Large town, good hotel; bad road.
Aculcingo	8. Village; no accommodation; road better.
Cañada	7. Cross the Cumbres; very steep and tiring; large village.
Palmar	6. Road deep in sand and dust; good hotel.
Aculzingo	8. Road better; large village; no hotel.
Amozoc	9. Fair road.
Puebla	4. Good road; large city.
St. Martin	8. Good road; small town.
Rio Frio	10. Steep ascents; hotel; very cold, and the water dangerous for horses.
Buena Vista	5. Descend into Valley of Mexico.
Mexicalcingo	5. Pass lakes; dirty village.
Mexico	3. Dusty deep road.

88 leagues from Paso del Macho.

The diligence, leaving Mexico early in the morning, arrives late in the evening at Puebla; leaves again at 1.30 A.M., and reaches Orizaba about 8 P.M.; and starting from Orizaba at 4 A.M., arrives about the middle of the day at Paso de Macho; that is, supposing the weather be fine, without rain, and no extraordinary causes of delay taking place.

TABLE OF MARCHES BETWEEN MEXICO AND
SALTILLO.

Mexico to—		
Tlalnepantla . . .	3.	Large village; good road.
Cuatitlan . . .	4.	Small town; good road.
Tepeji del Rio . . .	7.	Small town; rough road; bad pass.
San Francisco . . .	6½.	Village; rough road; steep.
Arroyo Zarco . . .	5½.	Hacienda; hotel; bad road.
Soledad . . .	5.	Hacienda; bad road.
St. Juan del Rio . . .	8.	Clean, pretty town; rough road; dust.
Colorado . . .	9.	Hacienda; almost in ruins; deep sand.
Queretaro . . .	7.	Fine city; bad road.
Montenegro . . .	5.	Fine hacienda; very bad road.
St. Diego . . .	6.	Good hacienda; part of road good.
La Noria . . .	6.	Good hacienda; good road.
St. Luis de la Paz . . .	7.	Dirty town; tolerable road.
La Sousada . . .	8½.	Fine hacienda; good road.
La Villela . . .	7.	Large village; bad road.
Santa Maria del Rio . . .	4½.	Pretty town; dangerous pass; bad road.



ROAD FROM VERA CRUZ TO SALTILLO.

Las Pilas . . .	8½.	Rough road; large hacienda.
St. Luis Potosi . .	4½.	Large city; good road.
Garabatillos* . .	5.	Wretched village; very deep dust.
Peñasco† . . .	6.	Fine hacienda; tolerable road.
Las Boccas . . .	{ 5.* 6.† }	Large hacienda; fair road.
Moctezuma, or Hedionda . . .	8.	Small town; good road.
Venado . . .	5½.	Town; tolerable road.
Charcas . . .	5½.	Nice town; rough road.
Laguna Secca . .	5.	Hacienda; good road.
Guadalupe . . .	9.	Small town; bad supply of water; the road deep in sand.
La Presa . . .	5.	Ruined hacienda; lake; bad road in wet weather; almost impass- able in places.
Matehuala . . .	4.	Large town; fair road.
Las Vanegas . . .	9.	Hacienda; good road; water.
Las Animas . . .	8.	Fair road; only one well, and that often dry; hacienda.
Salado . . .	6.	One well only; hacienda.
San Salvador . .	5.	Village; very little water; one well.
Encarnacion . .	10.	Hacienda; water very bad; two wells.
Tanqué de la Vaca .	5.	Pond of dirty water; no houses.
Agua Nueva . . .	7.	Village; spring and two wells bad road.
Saltillo . . .	7½.	Large town.

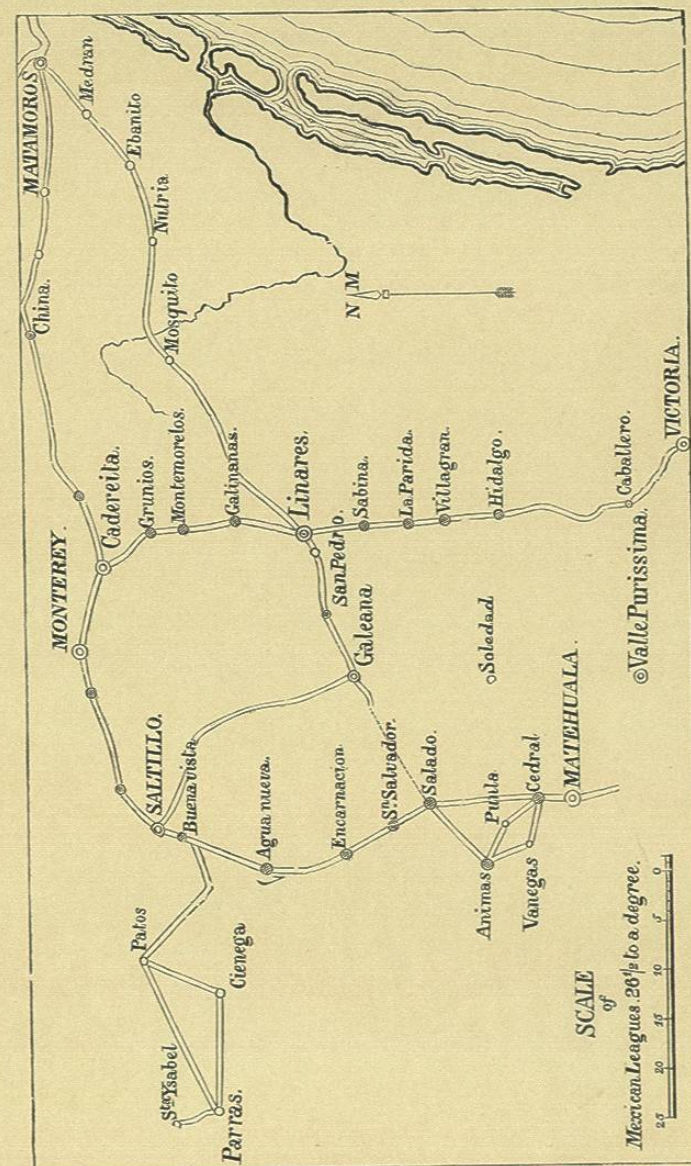
Either of these (* †) can be taken.

TABLE OF MARCHES FROM SALTILLO TO
MONTEREY.

Salttillo to—		
Santa Maria }	5.	Good road ; large hacienda.
Rinconada . .	7.	Hacienda in ruins ; rough road.
Los Muertos . .	6.	Wretched village ; fair road.
Monterey . . .	5.	Good road.

23 leagues.

VIRTUE AND CO., PRINTERS, CITY ROAD, LONDON.



J. Tomás
Mejía
pág. 168

- 49

- 165

- 185

10



