

PART I.
HISTORICAL INTRODUCTION.

SECTION IV.

The Second Empire, under Maximilian.

THE Emperor Maximilian commenced his reign under the most favourable and even flattering auspices. Instead of declaring himself a staunch Conservative, and a firm supporter of the Clerical party, which had been instrumental in placing him on the throne, he showed signs of possessing Liberal principles—while, on the other hand, he evaded the principles of ultra-Liberalism by adopting a medium course; and, in the formation of his Ministry, he displayed much wisdom and discernment, by appointing men of moderate Liberal ideas, who had made themselves conspicuous and acceptable in former Administrations, and through whom he hoped to conciliate the influential men of that party, many of whom entertained misgivings as to the ultimate success of their own cause; but who, fatigued and nauseated with perpetual intestine feuds, were half inclined to believe in the possibility of peace being permanently restored by the establishment of a Monarchy.

Whilst this feeling existed, Maximilian, in conjunction with the Empress Charlotte, made a tour of the newly-created Empire, and was everywhere received with demonstrations of confidence and rejoicings, which increased his popularity beyond all precedent.

The Emperor departed about the middle of August to make a journey into the interior. During that journey, which occupied two months, the personal qualities of His Majesty attracted the sympathies of all those who had the honour to approach him. The Emperor was pleasing in

the highest degree by his simple, affable, and courteous manners; he was sure to enlist the affection of all those who had not been touched by his foreign politics; the population received him with sincere enthusiasm. On the 16th of September, the anniversary of Mexican Independence, His Majesty was at Dolores, the village where Padre Hidalgo raised his first cry of war in 1810. On that occasion the Emperor pronounced, from the very house of Hidalgo, a discourse, wherein he said:—

“Mexicans. More than half a century, full of turbulence, has elapsed since, from this humble home, went forth from the heart of a priest the grand word of INDEPENDENCE, which resounded like thunder from one ocean to the other, throughout the whole extent of Anahuac,* and before which the servitude and despotism of many centuries fell paralysed.”

It would appear that Maximilian was pleased with his tour. A few days before he returned to the capital he wrote as follows: “My journey has been very happy up to this moment, and I trust it will not be without utility. “Everywhere I observe the same facts, an excellent population, very submissive.”

The Mexican people began to regard him as the saviour of their country, and were not unwilling to believe that, under his rule, war would cease, and all political contentions die out.

In the commencement of his short-lived reign in Mexico, Maximilian gave such strong evidence of possessing Liberal sentiments, that even some of the most influential of the Liberal party, and a large number of their partisans, were inclined to rally round his standard: convinced, from his having, in several instances, favourably entertained the views and supported the measures of the former Government, that his principles were similar to their own; and that by uniting with him in the restoration of order—in reorganizing the ruling of the country, hitherto so

* Ancient name of Mexico.

disturbed and confused by civil war—permanent peace would be secured, and the consequent progress and prosperity of the nation would be rendered all but certain.

This was the time for Maximilian to consolidate his power. Unfortunately, however, he was not a diplomatist, and could not resist the insidious flatteries and artifices of the Clerical party, who trembled at their own apparently prospective failure under the Empire, which seemed to threaten the annihilation of their hopes to re-establish the power of the Church, whose sway had been crushed by the Liberals after a prolonged existence of three centuries, propagating superstition in its most hideous phases, and swallowing up the wealth of the nation. The priests were impatient to regain the enormous landed property of the Church, which had been confiscated by the Liberal Government; and were naturally filled with alarm at the liberal ideas expressed by their newly-elected Emperor: knowing full well, that a germ of esteem for him in consideration of his professed principles was taking root in the breast of their enemies, and that if time were allowed for such ideas to be matured and propagated, they themselves would be displaced by the pressure of the Liberals, who were ready to sacrifice their ultra-Republican proclivities, and concert with the Emperor. Fearing such a catastrophe, the Conservatives resorted to every description of sophistry and deception, to make the Emperor vacillate, and, if possible, swerve from the plans he had formed. Unhappily, he was too easy a victim to flattery and credulity. The cunning of his courtiers overreached his better judgment, and, when too late, he discovered that the new laws he had enacted, instead of cementing the stability of the throne, had caused the alienation of a considerable number of his friends, who then augmented the ranks of the enemy: the ripening esteem of the Liberal party fell from him for ever, and a system of guerilla warfare was organized, in which the Imperial troops were harassed, until it became manifest that to conquer the country was an impossibility.

On the 3rd of October, 1865, a fatal decree,* which ultimately operated against himself and decided his fate, was issued by Maximilian. Its nature was arbitrary and condemnable.

This cruel decree was carried out to the very letter. "General Don José Maria Arteaga was one of the first victims of this sanguinary edict. He had been twice Governor of the State of Queretaro, and several times in

* "MAXIMILIAN, EMPEROR OF MEXICO, Our COUNCIL OF MINISTERS, and Our COUNCIL OF STATE, with one accord, decree :

"Art. 1. All persons forming a party or band, or an armed gathering existing without legal authority, whether or not they proclaim a political pretext, whatever may be the number of those who form the band, the organization of the latter, the character and the denomination it takes—shall be judged militarily by court-martial; if they are found guilty, even if it be only of the act of belonging to an armed band, shall be condemned to capital punishment, and the sentence shall be executed within twenty-four hours.

"Art. 2. Those who, forming a party or band—as mentioned in the foregoing article—shall be made prisoners in battle, shall be judged by the commander of the force into whose power they may fall. That officer shall, without any delay exceeding twenty-four hours, institute an inquiry, hearing the defence of the accused. He shall set up on that enquiry a *procès-verbal* terminating in sentence. Capital punishment shall be pronounced against the guilty, although no other act be imputed to them than that of belonging to an armed band. The officer shall have the sentence executed within the twenty-four hours, taking care to procure spiritual aid for the condemned, after which he shall forward the *procès-verbal* of the enquiry to the Minister of War.

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"Art. 5. There shall be judged and condemned according to the terms of the 1st article of the present law :

"1. All persons who may have voluntarily procured money or any other kind of succour for the *guerrilleros*.

"2. Those who may have given to them any warning, news, or advice.

"3. Those who voluntarily and without being ignorant of the nature of the *guerrilleros* may sell or procure for them arms, horses, munition, provisions, and, in general, any article of war."

* * * * *

" high military command, where he might with impunity have abused his position, during the chaos consequent on civil war, to become rich; but his integrity was unblemished, and he died in absolute poverty. At the time of his death he held the commission of Juarez as Chief to the Liberal army in Michoacan, but, notwithstanding all these circumstances, he was executed as a robber, together with General Salazar, and a number of other officers taken in war; and the Imperialist who shot them, Colonel Don Ramon Mendez, was promoted by his master to the rank of General, and chief commander in the Department of Michoacan.

" Also, it is notorious that on several occasions the French and Imperialists shed the blood of their opponents most unmercifully. For example, Baron d'Aymard, in command of a French division in Michoacan, surprised the camp of Regules, and made a terrible slaughter; and he then stated, in his despatch to Marshal Bazaine, that his men had made a free use of the bayonet, and that they had taken no prisoners! But, in the published version of this despatch, it was merely said that he had gone through the Liberal camp at the point of the bayonet.* It has been published that 11,000 men of every rank in the Republican army, ranging from General to common soldier, were shot down in cold blood, after falling prisoners of war, without the slightest inquiry of any description.† They had been guilty of carrying arms in defence of their country—fighting for their Liberty, and the protection of that glorious Independence, to obtain which their forefathers had sacrificed their lifeblood in a ten years' war! For this crime they were massacred. They were declared TRAITORS! But, let it be asked, *To whom were they Traitors?* To a foreign enemy, who had invaded their territory; who had spread devastation by fire and sword

* Letter published (in 1868) by Mr. Edmund Stephenson, of Guanajuato.

† Vide p. 69. Baron de Lago states 40,000.

throughout the land, endeavouring to extinguish the sacred flame of *Reform*, which had been kindled on the altar of *Liberty and Freedom of Religion*, by the first Liberal Government that ever exercised power in Mexico since the date of her Independence: a Government which succeeded, after many years of civil war, in extirpating the evil—that curse of the country, which had and ever would have hindered its progress in civilization—the power of a vitiated Roman Catholic Priesthood! This having been achieved, the crafty and revengeful monk appealed for aid to a foreign nation, to reinstate him in his former position. It was reserved for France to be that Power, by whom the Archduke of Austria was induced to accept the fragile sceptre of the prospective Empire of Mexico.

The 5th article of the edict alluded to, provided, that all persons, who, in any manner whatever, may aid or assist the Liberal forces, by supplying them with money, provisions, fodder for their horses, or shelter of any description, should be shot. Many were the victims who suffered from this tyrannical and unjust law; and many, who were so fortunate as to escape by flight, had their habitations and homesteads burned to the ground by the ruthless forces of the Imperial Government—simply because they were at the mercy of both parties. The Liberals, in their marchings, levied contributions and requisitions for the support of their troops; but it was decreed—woe betide the individual civilian, native or foreign, who received an unwelcome visit from those whom he was thus compelled to aid, according to his means, either by money or provisions! No protection was afforded him by the Empire, which expected him to resist by force of arms the demands of the Republicans. Such a man was doomed, by the decree of the 3rd of October, 1865, to expiate his crime by an ignominious death!

Too faithfully and fatally was that edict carried out: and many of the most respectable and pacific of the community, let it be repeated, were shot; whilst others, who, to avoid a

similar fate, fled from their homes (afterwards laid desolate by fire), were thus unmercifully hurled from the height of domestic affluence to the lowest depths of abject poverty.

Such heartrending scenes do not require the forcible pen of a sensational novelist to give them colour: the simple facts speak for themselves, and will for ever stand out in bold relief, as a reply to the world, which too hastily condemned Mexico for an act, which, much as it may be deplored, could not be obviated, in the face of the painful wailings, the agonizing lamentations, of a multitude weeping over the memory of the unresisting victims who were thus deliberately slaughtered. Parents for their sons, widows for their husbands, children for their fathers, sisters for their brothers, friends for their former companions—all united in one tremendous clamour for revenge. But what a poor revenge! How inadequate to the irretrievable losses they had sustained—the execution of one, who in fact, though not perhaps in intention, infringed the sacred rights and liberties of an unoffending people, innocent of any deed to excite by hostility, or through either fear or envy, the jealous ire of any foreign Power, he being ambitious only to establish a Monarchy on the Mexican soil!

After this sweeping onslaught, without any consideration for the sentiment of the soldier-patriot defending his domestic hearth from invasion by a foreign foe, or for the life or property of the pacific citizen placed in a helpless position,—can it be wondered at that Maximilian became a victim to his own unscrupulous decree of wholesale devastation?

At length the Washington Government, resolving to vindicate the Monroe doctrine, that no Monarchy shall be established on the continent of the New World, sent an intimation, couched in unmistakable terms, to the Emperor Napoleon, that unless he at once recalled the French troops from Mexico, a rupture between France and the United States must inevitably take place.

It is well known that that intimation had the magic effect of causing the speedy withdrawal of the French arms.

The letter of Mr. Seward (United States Secretary of State) of the 23rd of April, 1866, says:—"The Government has received the satisfactory assurances of the Emperor of the French that all the French troops will be recalled from Mexico, and that France will observe a policy of absolute non-intervention in the affairs of Mexico. Our Government will *exact* the same policy on the part of all European powers. Official information has been received from Paris and Vienna that the Emperor of Austria has offered to furnish Maximilian with troops to replace those of France, and that a large number of Austrian soldiers are ready to be embarked for Vera Cruz. Mr. Seward has given orders to Mr. Motley (United States Plenipotentiary) to demand his passport as soon as the first vessel shall have sailed with troops on an expedition of that nature, and to notify to the Government of Vienna that the Austrian Minister at Washington will receive his passport on the receipt of such news. The intervention of any European power in the affairs of Mexico will henceforth be considered by our Government as a *casus belli*. France has been engaged in a war with Mexico; endeavouring to obtain redress for the wrongs and injuries which she has suffered. She has now accepted the policy of non-intervention, of which the United States, as far as regards Mexico, will themselves be the guardians in the future."

Here it may be stated that the Emperor Maximilian had several months previously made preparations to leave Mexico and return to Europe. The Austrian frigate *Isabel* was lying in the port of Vera Cruz, waiting for any emergency; and the principal portion of Maximilian's luggage had been despatched from the city of Orizaba, where he was residing, and had actually reached Vera Cruz. On its arrival there, the French Consul at that port became cognisant of an occurrence so significant; and not having previously received the slightest intimation from the Commander-in-Chief of the French forces that such might

happen, he instantly telegraphed to Marshal Bazaine, in the city of Mexico, communicating the intelligence, and asking instructions how to act in the case. That General—between whom and Maximilian an official estrangement had for some time existed—replied by a peremptory command that the luggage should not be permitted to be embarked; and at the same moment sent a telegram to the officer in command of the forces at Orizaba, to place Maximilian under arrest, as he contemplated a departure from Mexico without that formal abdication which Bazaine desired, probably in order to be left free to treat with the head of the Liberal party—Juarez—whose position was now daily growing stronger, and whose ultimate triumph was gradually becoming more apparent, whilst that of the Imperial Government was becoming more desperate every hour.

Here, again, during this critical state of affairs, the Clerical party exerted their strongest influence over Maximilian to prevent such a disaster to their prospects, and to induce him to remain in possession of the throne, promising him an increase of his army, and 20,000,000 dollars for their support.

On the 22nd of November, by command of the Emperor, the Ministers and Councillors of State assembled at Orizaba to confer with his Majesty.

Led away by false representations and delusive hopes, which could never be realized, Maximilian returned to the city of Mexico, in spite of the advice to abdicate, given privately by sterling friends at Orizaba, whom he consulted on the matter: one being a highly respectable English gentleman and manufacturer, whose knowledge of the Mexican Clerical party, acquired by a thirty years' residence, enabled him to form a correct judgment of the probable result.

Another fatal step was also taken at this juncture by the now tottering Empire—the recall from exile of those notorious Generals, Miguel Miramon and Leonardo Marquez. The former had been deposed from the Presidency on the success

of the Liberal arms in the year 1860; and he it was, it will be remembered, who attached the large sum of 600,000 dollars belonging to the English bondholders, which was held in trust by the British Legation. Marquez had served under the Presidency of Miramon, and in his prowlings over the country, was infamous for acts of brutal ferocity, casting even the barbarities of Caligula into the shade. Many horrifying and well-authenticated examples of this might be related, but a full portraiture of them would be unfit for any publication. They were of such a description, however, that, on his return, the remembrance of the foul and flagrant deeds that he gloried in perpetrating, caused Mexico to blanch with terror; and a thrill of horror went through the land, in dread of a repetition of his former diabolical acts. Any appeal for support made to such wretches could only damage Maximilian's already critical position, and exasperate the Liberal party to an exterminating war, beyond all hope of pacification. The presence of these Generals at the consultation at Orizaba, above alluded to—the assurances of success they held out, combined with the persuasions of the Priesthood and ultra-Clerical party—prevailed on Maximilian to continue at the head of the Empire after the withdrawal of the French troops, and thus to renew the fearful strife which had formerly raged between Conservatives and Liberals, spreading desolation throughout the land for more than ten years previously. It was no longer a contest for the support and protection of the Monarchy—it had now merged into a struggle for ascendancy between the original contending factions: and if the Clerical party had succeeded in reinstating themselves with stability by annihilating their rivals, it is more than probable that the position of the Emperor would then have been treated with but scant respect, and his person with but grudging courtesy, even if they had not openly repudiated his right to govern as soon as their own purposes had been served. So far, it must be evident, Maximilian was made a tool of; and it is needless to speculate on what might have resulted if the Clerical party

had conquered: but true it is, as the sequel will show, that the "tiger" Marquez (such was his well-merited *sobriquet*) disregarded any power superior to his own, even before the final overthrow of the Empire, by the entrance of the Liberals into Queretaro on the 15th of May, 1867, when the Emperor was made prisoner.

On the 30th of November Maximilian resolved to retain power and to return from Orizaba to the city of Mexico—only two months previous to the departure of the French troops from the Capital. Early in the morning of their leaving, they were reviewed by Marshal Bazaine, on the open space in front of the Ciudadela (citadel), on the western side of the city, from whence, in marching across to the coast side of the Capital, they had to pass in front of the Palace, under the open windows of the room in which Maximilian (Emperor to them no longer) was seated: but he did not make his appearance, to exchange the usual courteous valedictory salutations with the Commander-in-Chief of the French forces and his officers; which manifested the unfriendly feeling that now, and for some time previously had, existed.

The music selected for the "march-past" (*Partant pour la Syrie*) is said to have been a studied affront, in ridicule of the position of the abandoned—the forsaken Emperor! Who can estimate the real state of Maximilian's feelings as the expiring notes of the martial air were lost in the distance?—separated now, and for ever, from the army which had placed him on the throne, and had been pledged to support him there—whose simple presence inspired a feeling of security!—Gone, all gone! A tremulous sensation of solitude, and a dark foreboding, could scarcely have failed to pass through his mind at that moment, when the tramp of the French troops ceased to be heard. Distant from his affectionate and amiable wife—who had fruitlessly journeyed to Europe, to solicit further aid in support of the Empire, which was rapidly losing its prestige, and was crumbling to the ground—deprived of her counsel under such trying

circumstances, he must have been cowed with dejection, if not overwhelmed with despondency: left to comparative strangers; surrounded by courtiers, jealous solely of their own personal interests—who had nothing to lose, but who were keenly alive to the desperate aspect of affairs.

Now came the decisive struggle. The retreat of the French army was closely followed up by the Liberals, who, as the former receded to the coast, posted troops along the line of route from the Capital to Vera Cruz; and so the Empire was reduced to the small portion of territory, and the few towns still held in occupation.

Maximilian must have been obstinately blind not to have recognised his precarious position at this moment. It is incredible that he could have been ignorant of the qualities which characterised the two Generals Miramon and Marquez—whom he now placed in command of the Imperial forces—inasmuch as, at the instigation of the British Government, they had been exiled from Mexico, that Government having withheld its recognition of the Empire until such a step had been taken. To recall these men, who were held in such general detestation by the people, irrespective of differences in political opinion, could not fail to exasperate, more than ever, the opponents of the Conservatives, and naturally arouse their indignation against Maximilian—for whom they entertained a certain amount of compassion, in consequence of the deception that had been practised on him at Miramar by the Committee of Notables, and the influence which France had exercised over his actions. This flagrant error was unpardonable; there were no extenuating circumstances in the case, to warrant such a censurable, such a suicidal, measure as that of recalling Marquez, and appointing him General-in-Chief of the Imperial forces, and Governor of the capital of Mexico. A monster who had revelled in the foulest crimes, causing his name to ring like a death-knell through the land,—his barbarous cruelties will never be obliterated from the memory of Mexicans. In his maraudings over the country

in every direction, previous to his exile, he, with his followers, butchered an entire family at Tepeji del Rio—he himself crowning the dark deed by taking up an innocent baby by the feet, and smashing its head against the wall! At Tlascalala he had women bound by ropes, hung to the branches of trees by their breasts, and flogged; and then abandoned them to a horrible death of lingering torture. In the town of Pachuca he visited the domicile of an English family; and, not content with his booty, dragged the lady of the house into the courtyard, and threatened to shoot her if she did not disclose more hidden treasure. Her cries reached the hearts of the more merciful soldiers, who saved her life from the savage monster whom they called captain. The recollection of such atrocities excited the Liberals to the highest pitch of indignation, and caused their ranks to increase daily. The struggle of the Mexicans with each other was thus renewed: the Conservatives, or adherents to the Empire, were arrayed against the Juarez or Liberal Government, which was temporarily installed at Zacatecas.

At an assembly of Ministers held in the city of Mexico on the 14th of January, 1867, the Minister of War declared that he counted on an effective force of 26,000 men; the Minister of Finance believed he could provide eleven millions of dollars from the actual revenue, which could be increased to twenty-four millions, and then to thirty-six, as the Imperial Government re-established its authority in the country.

The campaign was opened by General Miramon, who marched from the Capital to Zacatecas, levying *en route* forced loans on the towns and villages. In this expedition Miramon was defeated, and retired on Queretaro, at which place the Emperor resolved to concentrate the principal part of his army, and where he made his appearance, in the early part of February, 1867, at the head of his forces, with his General-in-Chief, the notorious Marquez. Immediately after his entrance into Queretaro the Liberals besieged the place, simultaneously with Vera Cruz and Puebla, and

cut off all supplies from those fortified places, which were as yet occupied by the troops attached to the Empire.

Whilst the contest was being carried on at these different points, General Marquez managed, by a strategic manœuvre, to steal away from Queretaro with about 500 cavalry, with the ostensible design of joining the besieged at Puebla, who were sorely pressed. He first marched to the Capital, to gather together as many troops as possible; and there prepared a train of artillery, ammunition, provisions, baggage-waggons, and bullion, with which he proceeded towards Puebla with a bold front, sanguine of success. The Liberals were not less active, and being watchful, and well-informed of the movements and intentions of Marquez, they resolved on giving him no chance of relieving Puebla, but to take the town at once by assault. This was bravely effected, at a sacrifice of nearly 3000 men, in the beginning of April, 1867, by the forces under the command of General Porfirio Diaz, who directly afterwards marched to encounter Marquez on his way from the city of Mexico. They signally defeated him at San Lorenzo, and captured the entire paraphernalia of war, as well as the bullion. The Imperialists fled in all directions. Marquez succeeded in escaping, and reached the city of Mexico with less than a score of his panic-stricken comrades. General Porfirio Diaz followed up his victory by approaching the Capital, which he soon after surrounded and vigorously besieged, cutting off all supplies, at the same time that Queretaro was in a precisely similar position. Both these fortified cities were suffering from the same causes, although the fighting at Queretaro was the most severe. Soon the scarcity of provisions began its slow but certain work.

On the night of the 14th of May, 1867, the Emperor presided at a council of war, when it was resolved to make an attempt to break through the lines of the enemy on the following day, and fight them on the open field. This manœuvre might or might not have been effected. However, dark treason was undermining his plans. An officer

(Colonel Lopez) in whom Maximilian implicitly confided,—on whom he had bestowed unlimited favours—whom he had countenanced and trusted as a friend—at that eventful moment betrayed his benefactor and Emperor. Lopez, who has been universally execrated, and by none more so than by the Mexican Liberal party, delivered up the fortification of Santa Cruz, in which Maximilian unsuspectingly reposed. It appears that Lopez had an accomplice called Jablonski, a native of Poland, in this odious infamy. The Emperor and his generals were surprised on the morning of the 15th of May, and had to capitulate without striking a blow.

The particulars of this perfidious act are fully explained in the two following declarations.

Colonel Guzman, second staff-officer of the Imperial army, states:—"About four o'clock, A.M., on the 15th of May, the secretary of the Emperor (Señor J. L. Blasio) entered the apartments occupied by General Castillo and myself; he informed me that the enemy was in the cemetery. I instantly told the General, and rushed out. . . . I retired with much precaution, when I met approaching, at the beat of the drum, five or six officers, behind whom Lopez was coming on.

"I made a step in advance in the middle of them, and addressing myself to Lopez, said, 'What is the matter, Colonel?' He did not reply, and I could observe that he seemed desirous to keep behind that group of officers. I had scarcely pronounced those words when one of them, who was behind me, said in a loud voice, 'Secure this person.' This was done by seven or eight soldiers who were behind, and whom I had not observed. That small guard marched me towards the garden about twenty-five yards from the door, where we remained.

"At that time I supposed Lopez had been made prisoner like myself, but I could not conceive why he did not join me, seeing him continue to march with those officers towards another door of the edifice, from twenty to twenty-

"five yards distant, which led to the quarters of the company of sappers, thence to a guard of military police, and to the interior of a fortified work which commanded the road leading to La Cruz.

"For about a quarter of an hour I could observe that some persons, coming from the interior, went towards the detachments of infantry, and made them advance on the convent by its two entrances, and by a large court-yard, which they reached by a hole in the wall. That court communicated on the south with the line of San Francisquito, and on the north with the hospital. At that moment I heard Lopez, at a short distance, say, in a loud voice, marching rapidly on,

"'This way, General, this way.'

"I had a moment of extreme joy, for I momentarily supposed that Lopez had succeeded in escaping, and that it was to General Castillo that he pointed out the road by which the enemy had advanced; but that illusion was of short duration, for quickly afterwards I was marched towards a platform constructed against the wall of the left enclosure, where I was joined by seven or eight of my comrades, already prisoners. It was not till then that I could comprehend all that had passed before my eyes with such order and silence, because no firing was made from any post, and the movement was not observed from the tower.

"Amongst the prisoners were commandants of all the various posts, except that of the tower, and each one began to relate what Lopez had said to them in order to divide them. To the commandant of the cemetery he said, that a battalion of General Marquez, eluding the vigilance of the enemy, had succeeded in reaching the 'Plaza,' and that it was from detachments of that troop that he relieved the guard, which had to join his battalion to undertake an operation at the break of day. He induced Lieut. Hans to draw his piece towards La Cruz, because a detachment had revolted at that place; withdrew him