

"No—of the one, one only object traced
 In her heart's core too deep to be effaced;
 The one whose memory, fresh as life, is twined
 With every broken link of her lost mind;
 Whose image lives, though Reason's self be wrecked,
 Safe 'mid the ruins of her intellect!"

Let us hope that she who dealt so lavishly unto the needy, may receive from the Giver of all perfect gifts, that aid which will enable her soon to show forth her mind in all its former lustre.

CHAPTER IV.

MIRAMAR.

THE castle of Miramar, the palatial residence of Ferdinand Maximilian, before he ascended the throne of Mexico, is situated a league distant from the city of Trieste, on a rocky promontory, the base of which the Adriatic Sea laves with its foamy waves, holding photographed beneath its sheeny surface, in the quietude of its calm, the turreted castle and wavy sky.

Through all the spacious halls of that architectural pile, in the silent hours, the whisperings of the ever-murmuring sea fall upon the ear. And as its owner's chain of slumber now and then lost a link by the pilfering hand of wakefulness, he would half forget whether he was balancing on the oaken beams of the Austrian fleet, o'er the heaving sea, or quietly nestling within those castellated walls, supported by a terrestrial base. And as the blue deep was his accustomed element, it was a pleasure to him, while resting from professional labors, at home among the flower-beds, to gaze at the mysterious sea, and listen to its variant notes as they changed from gentle murmurs to the sullen roar of the storm.

Scarcely a dozen years have been recorded in the past, since the grounds of Miramar were observed untouched by the decorative hand of Art; and the drapery of Nature was then, by no means, gorgeous.

The castle is built of stone, is cream-colored, and stands facing the west, sixty feet high, with a front

about eighty-four feet wide, flanked by a tower that rises nearly one hundred and forty feet above the water's edge, and is not far from twenty-four feet square. The castle and tower are surmounted with a perforated parapet, with turreted corners and ornamental pendants on the cornice. It is only half the size of the original plan, the intention having been to extend it on the east.

On the front of the edifice is inscribed, in large gilt letters, the day and hour when Maximilian accepted the crown of Mexico.

On the first floor, in the tower, is a small drawing-room, which was much occupied by Carlota, and which opens into a saloon in the main building. The room adjoining the latter on the north was her sleeping-apartment, and the next one her dressing-room, which joined that of her servant.

In the second story, and in the rear of the latter room, was the wardrobe of Her Majesty. The northern part of the front building is divided into three stories—the southern part into two;—the grand saloon being in the latter division, extends to the cornice, a height of nearly forty feet, is forty-five feet by twenty-six, and is decorated with fine paintings and elegant furniture.

A closed balcony, about nine by twelve feet in dimensions, supported by four stone columns, embellishes the front of the castle. It has three windows looking out upon the sea, and two on either side.

The centre building contains, on the first floor, the library and dining-room, each being twenty-five by fifty feet. Over the dining-room is an unfinished saloon. The chapel and sleeping apartment of Carlota open into the dining-room. The private room of Maximilian was east of and adjoining the library. He accepted the crown of Mexico in the sleeping-apartment of Carlota, the same having been first arranged and decorated for the occasion.

The library contains a large collection of books written in the various ancient and modern European languages, among which are the works of Munguia and other Mexican authors: also quite an extensive museum of natural curiosities,—stuffed birds, reptiles, and other animals, many of which came from Mexico.

The artistic skill of the Grecians and Romans also contributes to swell the list of ornaments.

The Mexican coat-of-arms, woven in rich brocade, adorns the walls of several apartments.

The paintings from the hands of the Italian masters attest the elegant taste of the owner of that mansion, which is so richly embellished with them.

A carriage-road about twenty feet wide encircles the castle, and is skirted with rose-bushes on the south side of the edifice. In the rear of the buildings is a circular parterre, nearly fifty yards in diameter, girted with flower-beds; in the centre of which is a fountain throwing its silvery dews on the surrounding shrubbery and Flora's richly painted hues.

Near the stairway on the north side, which leads down to the sea, may be seen a beautiful marble statue resting in a niche. Near by the stairway is a small parterre measuring some thirty by fifteen yards, oval in form, and containing exquisite flowers that perfume the salt sea air, and flavor your breath momentarily as your bark glides from the rocky base out into the deep blue.

From the larger parterre, in the rear of the castle, extends a bower of roses to the summer-house, which is also arched with the same bush and flower.

South of the castle, several hundred yards distant, are large stables built of stone and brick, situated near the road that circles around the sea to Trieste.

A serpentine road leads to the garden, which is back a short distance, on rising ground. It possesses many plants from the tropical climes. The maguay, the olean-

der, and the cactas remind one of Mexico, although the magney was brought by Maximilian from Dalmatia. The premises contain a few fruit-trees only. Several oaks and pines shade the ground here and there. A marble statue of Napoleon I. stands back some distance from the castle, looking as if it had command of the surrounding hills. Numerous pieces of Egyptian and Grecian sculpture are scattered over the ground, appearing as though they had rested there for ages, but which Maximilian had gathered in his different voyages to the lands of the ancient artists.

Half a mile or more from the sea stands a beautiful cottage, occupied by Maximilian while the castle was building. He was there watching and directing the erection of that elegant edifice, exhibiting a high degree of architectural taste and judgment. He had no particular fondness for the Gothic style. A mile from the castle, near the garden grounds, is a private railway station, for the accommodation of the premises; also a telegraph-office.

It has not been the intention of the author to give herein a minute or professional description of the architectural splendor represented in the engraving, but only to portray in general terms some of the main features thereof, couched in plain language, unmingled with technical expressions.

CHAPTER. V.

Cause of intervention—Assembly of Notables and their acts—Monarchy adopted—Mexican deputation visit Maximilian—Their address to him—His reply—Second deputation sent—Preparations of Maximilian with his family.

BEFORE recording the history of Maximilian, as it pertains to Mexico, it will be necessary to take a cursory view of the late political condition of that country. If we pass in review that nation's record for the last fifty years, our illustration of its real condition would not be erroneous should we allege that the sea has been its emblem. The alternate storms and calms have scarcely been more frequent of the one than of the other. If the one has been considered the depository of great riches, so has the other. The treasury of both lies buried. If the toilers in search of wealth in the elements of the one, have been wrecked, the same has likewise been the fate of those who have battled with the elements in the other. The diggers in the one, and the divers in the other, have felt the effect of the storms.

The Liberal party built a Ship of State, on which they placed in large gilt letters, "CONSTITUTION." That party insisted that the Church party should board her, and it was contended that the latter would be safe on her quarter-deck. The Church party did not have as much faith in these allurements as it did in the ten commandments. The chiefs thereof were afraid to step aboard with their funds. They were aware that the ship was heavily laden with a bottomry bond; and that her officers were in pursuit of Church funds to discharge her. And, besides, they had no confidence that the ves-

sel would be navigated according to the rules laid down in the "CONSTITUTION." Hence the disagreement. Dismissing the figure of speech, it is quite apparent that disorder has been the prevalent condition of the country.

It is well understood that Comonfort renounced the presidency in January, 1858; and thereupon the Church party seized the capital of the nation. Whatever might have been the intention of the Church party at that time—whether to support the Constitution or not—they certainly were not in harmony with the Liberals. It has been observed that the Church party was not desirous of overthrowing the constitutional government. Juarez, at the head of the Liberals, was still declaring to the people that he stood upon the Constitution, and that his organization was the only legally constituted one. Which was the government *de facto* it is here unnecessary to decide. At that time the decision was made by foreign governments in favor of the Church party. The diplomatic corps in Mexico officially acknowledged no other.

The treatment towards foreigners resident became such, in their opinion, that the respective governments to which they belonged deemed it necessary to interfere in behalf of their subjects. Thus, in 1861, England, France, and Spain united with a view of demanding from Mexico payment for their respective claims, and just reparation for repeated injuries. England required satisfaction on account of what she termed the illegal taking of funds by Miramon, who, on the 16th day of November, 1860, had laid his hands on one hundred and fifty-two thousand pounds sterling, which was the property of Englishmen. England was aware that highwaymen were not a small class of individuals in Mexico, but she had never learned that writers upon international law had laid it down that an army had a legal right to rob the house of the British Legation, and that the flag

was no protection. The money so taken was in the house of that Legation.

The Mon-Almonte treaty, made at Paris in September, 1859, between Spain and the Church party, provided for the payment of Spanish claims. The downfall of that party had the effect to annul that treaty, in the judgment of the reigning power, as they refused to recognize it. Mexico had assumed the position that the home debt due to her citizens should be paid in preference to foreign claims. Spain, therefore, refused to submit to what she termed a denial of justice.

A Swiss banker, named Jecker, who came to Mexico some years ago, had amassed a fortune that was numbered by millions. Such a man, with such a fortune, was not an undesirable friend for any one wishing to carry on bold and expensive undertakings. Miramon considered the friendship of that man of value, and the heads of the two were brought together. Between the financial abilities of the two, a scheme was planned for enriching the Church party—at least for the benefit of Jecker and Miramon. A decree was issued on the 29th day of October, 1859, at the instigation of Miramon, that three million pounds sterling should be circulated in bonds. The decree provided that the bonds should be taken for taxes and import duties, and that they should bear interest at six per cent. per annum; it also provided that the house of Jecker would pay one-half of the interest for five years. Certain regulations provided that the holders of these bonds could transfer them, and receive in their stead Jecker bonds; this was to be done by paying a certain percentage. Jecker was the person to issue the said amount of bonds. He was to be paid five per cent. on the issue. It appears that the arrangement entered into was not executed, on the part of Jecker, as the provisions of the decree required. At the suggestion of Jecker, the contract was modified.

And the final result of their making and unmaking of contracts, was to leave the Church party liable for the sum of three millions seven hundred and twenty thousand pounds sterling, and Jecker in such condition as to be unable to comply with his agreement. In fact, his house, in May, 1860, suspended payment. The bonds went into the possession of his creditors. The Liberal party coming into power, refused to acknowledge any debt based upon the foregoing transactions. France considered it a legitimate claim against the Mexican Government, regardless of the name of the reigning party, and that it ought to be paid. France had other claims against Mexico, amounting to twelve millions of dollars. The foregoing claims, added to the complaints for maltreatment of the subjects of the three powers, formed the basis of the allied intervention.

The Mexican Government assumed the position that it never had refused to enter into an equitable and just arrangement with Mr. Jecker; that is to say, to pay him the amount of money actually advanced to the Government by him, with interest, or some compensation for its use. That Government further contended that Jecker, instead of applying to the finance department for an arrangement, or to the court of justice, to sue the Government, resorted to the Legation. France proposed to take a certain sum, about ten millions of dollars, payable out of the proceeds of the custom-house; and if the proposition was not accepted, her intimation was, war to destruction.

Mexico was firmly of opinion that the claims demanded were exorbitant, and far more than justice would dictate.

I have not herein set forth the particulars of the respective claims of the allied powers; such a statement is not requisite for the purposes of this work. Neither is it my province to weigh said claims in the scales of justice. The general nature of the claims has been

given which formed the ground-work of that intervention which was introductory to the establishment of the empire over which the unfortunate Maximilian reigned.

The three complaining powers already mentioned agreed, in convention at London, October, 1861, that each of them should send to Mexico an equal naval force; and as to the number of troops to be furnished by each, that that should be regulated according to the number of subjects which the respective powers had in Mexico. It was understood by said powers that the intervention was only for the purpose of enforcing payment of their respective claims. England did not appear satisfied with the justness of the whole of the French demand. Spain coincided with England upon that point. Notwithstanding that, the allied powers sent a joint fleet to Vera Cruz, which, on the 6th of January, 1862, reached the port of its destination. On the following day they disembarked the following number of troops: six thousand three hundred Spanish, two thousand eight hundred French, and eight hundred English. By virtue of a treaty signed at Soledad, February 19th, 1862, the allied forces were permitted to leave the unhealthy coast, and to take up their quarters near Orizaba, where they might inhale the pure mountain air. The leaders of the respective armies did not agree in all matters of discussion in their conference. The English and Spanish officers did not differ on another proposition; and that was, that they would leave the French forces alone in their glory. The chiefs of the forces of the two former powers decided to right-about face, and steer homeward, which they did in the following April.

On the 17th of May, 1863, the city of Puebla, after a siege of sixty-two days, surrendered to the French army, which entered the city two days later, by order of General Forey, commander-in-chief thereof. Soon there-

after, that army, in conjunction with certain Mexican forces under General Marquez, took up their line of march for the city of Mexico. On the 31st of May, the Juarez party fell back from that city; and on the 10th of June following, the allied forces entered the city without resistance. On the 16th, the French General issued a decree that a provisional government should be formed; and that the citizens to be invested with governmental powers should be elected by a Superior Junta of government, composed of thirty-five persons, in accordance with another decree which was issued on the 18th. The Junta elected for its President Señor D. Teodosio Lares, and for its Secretary, Sres. D. José Maria Andrade and D. Alejandro Arango y Escandon. On the 22d, the Superior Junta of government invested the Provisional Executive Power in General D. Juan N. Almonte, Archbishop D. Palagio Antonio de Labastida, and General D. José Mariano Salas; and as *suplentes* (supernumeraries), Dr. D. Juan B. Omaechea, Bishop of Tulancingo, and D. Ignacio Pavon, a lawyer.

This new government assembled with great solemnity on the 25th of June. On the 2d of July they published an edict containing a list of two hundred and fifteen persons, who, jointly with the Superior Junta, were thereby declared to constitute the Assembly of Notables, intrusted with the duty of providing a plan for a permanent government. This Assembly chose for its president and secretaries, respectively, the same persons that held those positions in the Superior Junta. They were solemnly installed on the 8th of July, in presence of the Executive, the French commander-in-chief, and Count Dubois de Saligny, Minister Plenipotentiary of France. A committee was appointed by the Assembly to draft a form of government. On the 10th, the committee submitted their plan to the Assembly, which was unanimously adopted. There were present two hundred and

thirty members. Ten had resigned, and the remaining ten, through sickness and pressing business of their own, failed to attend. In accordance with the plan, the Assembly issued a decree, which was published on the 11th of July, containing the following:

“Manuel G. Aguirre, Political Prefect of the District of Mexico, to its inhabitants. Know ye:

“That by the Secretary of State and of the Office of Foreign Relations, has been communicated to me the following decree:

PALACE OF THE SUPREME EXECUTIVE POWER,
MEXICO, July 11th, 1863.

“The Supreme Provisional Executive Power has been pleased to transmit me the decree which follows:

“The Supreme Provisional Executive Power of the Nation, to the inhabitants thereof. Know ye:

“That the Assembly of Notables, by virtue of the decree of the 16th, last passed, for the purpose of making known the form of government most agreeable to the nation, in the exercise of the full power which the nation has, to establish itself, and as the organ and interpreter of the nation, declares with absolute independence and liberty, the following:

‘1st. The Mexican Nation adopts for its form of government, a limited, hereditary monarchy, with a Catholic prince.

‘2d. The Sovereign will take the title of Emperor of Mexico.

‘3d. The Imperial Crown of Mexico is offered to His Imperial Highness, Prince Ferdinand Maximilian, Archduke of Austria, for him and his descendants.

‘4th. In case of any circumstances, impossible to foresee, the Archduke Ferdinand Maximilian should not take possession of the throne which is offered him, the Mexican nation submits to the benevolence of Napo-

leon III., Emperor of the French, to indicate to her another Catholic prince.

'Given in the Hall of Sessions of the Assembly, on the 10th day of July, 1863.

'TEODOSIO LARES, President.

'ALEJANDRO ARANGO Y ESCANDON, Secretary.

'JOSÉ MARIA ANDRADE, Secretary.'

'Therefore, it is ordered that the same be printed, published by a national edict, circulated, and that due compliance be therewith given.

'Given in the Palace of the Supreme Executive Power, in Mexico, on the 11th of July, 1863.

'JUAN N. ALMONTE,

'JOSÉ MARIA SALAS,

'JUAN B. OMAECHEA.'

'To the Sub-secretary of State and of the Office of Foreign Relations.'

'And I communicate it to you for your information and the consequent terminations.

J. MIGUEL ARROZO,
Sub-secretary of State and of
the Office of Foreign Relations

'Señor Political Prefect of Mexico.'

"And in order that notice of it may reach every one, I order that it be printed, published, and circulated by the persons charged with the same.

"MANUEL G. AGUIRRE,
"Political Prefect.

"MEXICO, July 13th, 1863.

"To José M. de Garay, Secretary
General of the Prefecture."

By a decree of the 11th of July, the Assembly of Notables abolished the name of "Provisional Executive

Power," and adopted that of "Regency of the Empire," in its stead.

Soon after that the Regency appointed a commission to carry to the Archduke Maximilian of Austria the decree of the Assembly, and offer him the crown of Mexico. This commission was composed of Señores D. José M. Gutierrez Estrado, D. José Hidalgo, D. Antonio Escandon, D. Tomas Murphy, General D. Adrian Woll, D. Ignacio Aguilar, D. Joaquin Velasquez de Leon, D. Francisco Javier Miranda, a priest, and D. Angel Iglesias as Secretary. The four first were at that time in Europe; the others embarked at Vera Cruz for San Nazario about the 15th of August.

On the 3d of October, 1863, the deputation was officially received by the Archduke Maximilian, in the Palace of Miramar, his usual residence, near Trieste.

The president of the deputation, Señor Gutierrez de Estrada, delivered to the Archduke the following discourse:

"PRINCE:

"The Mexican nation, scarcely restored to its liberty by the beneficial influence of a powerful and unanimous monarch, sends us to present ourselves to Your Imperial Highness, the object and centre, to-day, of its purest wishes and most flattering hopes.

"We will not speak, Prince, of our tribulations and our misfortunes, known by every one, and which have been extended so far that the name of Mexico has become synonymous with desolation and ruin.

"Struggling a long time ago to extricate ourselves from so painful a situation, and which, if possible, is even bitterer, on account of the sad future placed before our eyes, than the present evils; there has been no arbitrator to whom this unhappy nation could have been submitted; a trial which could not have been made in the fatal circle

in which it was placed,—having unskillfully adopted and confided in republican institutions, so contrary to our natural constitution, our natural customs and traditions, and which, while increasing the greatness and pride of a neighboring people, have been for us but an incessant source of the most cruel misfortunes.

“Our country has passed nearly half a century in that sad existence, full of unprofitable suffering and intolerable shame. But, all the spirit of life and all faith in the future were not extinguished in us. Our firm confidence being placed in the Sovereign Regulator and Arbitrator of nations, we did not cease hoping and soliciting with eagerness the desired remedy for its ever-increasing torments.

“And our hopes were not in vain. The mysterious ways are visible through which Divine Providence has led us to that fortunate situation in which we now find ourselves, and which the highest intelligence scarcely conceived possible.

“Mexico, then, again master of her destinies, and taught by the experience of past errors, now makes a supreme effort to regain herself.

“To other political institutions she recurs anxiously and hopefully, promising herself that she will be even more prosperous than when she was a monarchical colony of Europe; and still more if she should succeed in having at her head a Catholic Prince, who, with his eminent and acknowledged merit, unites also that nobleness of sentiment, that force of will, and that rare abnegation which is the privilege of men predestined to govern, to regenerate, and to save misled and unhappy nations at the decisive hour of their acknowledged error and danger.

“Mexico promises herself much, Prince, from the institutions which governed her for the space of three centuries, and which left us, when they disappeared, a splendid

MIRAMAR



in which it was placed—having rashly adopted and extended a republican constitution, so contrary to our natural constitution, our habits, customs, and traditions, and which, while it showed the greatness and pride of a conquering people, have been for us but an incessant source of sorrow and misfortunes.

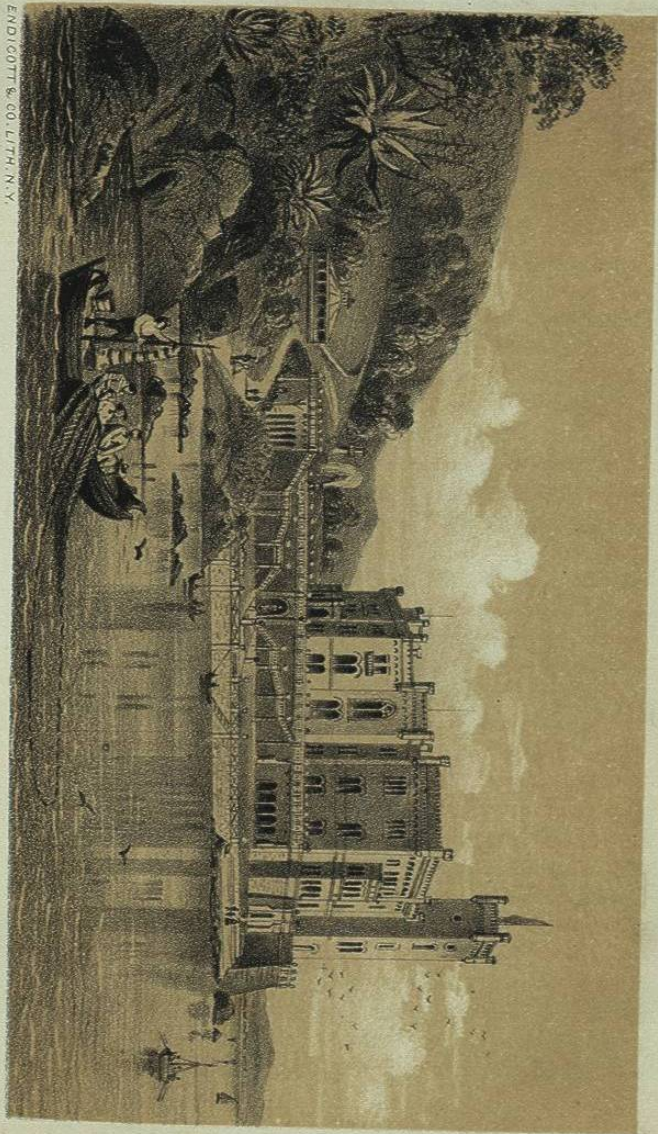
It has now passed nearly half a century in that unprofitable state of unprofitable suffering and intolerance, when all the spirit of life and all faith in the future were not extinguished in us. Our firm confidence being placed in the Sovereign Regulator and Arbitrator of the world, we did not cease hoping and soliciting with eagerness the desired remedy for its ever-increasing torments.

“And our hopes were not in vain. The mysterious ways are visible through which Divine Providence has led us to that fortunate situation in which we now find ourselves, and which the highest intelligence scarcely conceived possible.

Mexico, then, again a master of her destinies, and taught by the experience of past errors, now makes a supreme effort to regain herself.

“To other political institutions she recurs anxiously and hopefully, promising herself that she will be even more prosperous than when she was a monarchical colony of Europe; and still more if she should succeed in placing at her head a Catholic Prince, who, with his eminent and distinguished merit, united also that nobleness of soul, that love of duty, and that rare abnegation which are the prerogatives of our predestined to govern, to enlighten, and to save wretched and unhappy nations at the decisive point of their acknowledged error and downfall.

“Mexico promises her restoration. It is the institutions which governed her for the space of three centuries, and which left us, when they disappeared, a splendid



MIRAMAR.

legacy, that we did not know how to preserve under the Republic.

“But if that faith in monarchical institutions is great and profound, it cannot be complete if these institutions are not personified in a Prince endowed with the high gifts which Heaven has dealt out to you with a prodigal hand.

“A monarch can, without great gifts of intelligence or character, increase the fortunes of his people, when that monarch is but the successor to an ancient monarchy, in a country of ancient monarchies; but a Prince requires exceptional qualities when he has to be the first of a series of kings—in short, the founder of a dynasty and the heir of a Republic.

“Without Your Imperial Highness—believe these lips, that have never been stained with flattery—it would be inefficacious and ephemeral, whatever might be the attempt, to raise our country from the abyss in which it lies; and besides, the generous views of the powerful monarch whose sword has redeemed us, and whose strong arm now sustains us, would be frustrated.

“With Your Highness, so versed in the difficult science of government, the institutions will be what they ought to be, to secure the prosperity and independence of their new country, which has for its basis that true and progressive Liberty, the sister of Justice, which is its first condition, and not that false liberty, unknown among us except by its excesses and ravages.

“Those institutions, with the modifications which prudence dictates and the necessity of the times requires, will serve as an insurmountable defence to our national independence.

“These convictions and these sentiments, of which long ago many Mexicans were possessed, are found, to-day, Prince, in the consciences of all, and spring from every heart. In Europe, even, whatever may be the

sympathies or opposition, there is only one voice in regard to Your Imperial Highness and your august spouse, so distinguished for her high qualities and exemplary virtues, who soon will share your throne and our hearts, and will be loved, exalted, and blessed by every Mexican.

"We, who are but feeble interpreters of that general applause of love, of the hopes and prayers of a whole nation, come to present in that nation's name, to Your Imperial Highness, the crown of the Mexican Empire, which the people offer you, Prince, freely and spontaneously, by a solemn decree of the Notables, already ratified by many provinces, and which soon will be, as every one says, by the entire nation.

"We cannot forget, Prince, that this act meets with a happy coincidence—that of the country celebrating the anniversary of the day when the national army triumphantly planted, in the capital of Mexico, the standard of independence and of monarchy, calling to the throne an Archduke of Austria, in default of an Infante of Spain.

"Accept, Prince, favorably, the wishes of a people who invoke your assistance, and who fervently pray Heaven to crown the glorious work of Your Highness; and who ask God also that power may be granted unto them to worthily respond to the persevering efforts of Your Imperial Highness.

"Lastly, Prince, may the aurora of happier times shine forth for Mexico, after so much suffering, and may we have the incomparable happiness of being able to announce to the Mexicans the good news which they are so anxiously desiring;—good news not only for us, but also for France, whose name to-day is as inseparable from our history as it will be from our gratitude; good news for England and Spain, who commenced this great work at the convention in London, after having been the

first to recognize its justice, and to proclaim its imperative necessity; and finally, for the renowned dynasty of Hapsburg, that crowns this great work with Your Imperial and Royal Highness.

"We are not ignorant, Prince, I repeat it, of the abnegation which Your Imperial Highness requires, and which alone can make agreeable the thoughts of your duties so pleasing to Divine Providence (who does not create princes and give them great qualities in vain), since Your Imperial Highness has been disposed to accept, with all its consequences, a mission so difficult and arduous, at such a distance from your country, and from the illustrious and powerful throne, on the first step to which is found Your Imperial Highness; and so far from this Europe which is the centre and emporium of the civilization of the world.

"Yes, Prince, the crown is very heavy which our admiration and love offers you to-day; but the day will come, we hope, when its possession will be enviable (thanks to your efforts, which Heaven will know how to recompense), with our co-operation and unalterable gratitude and loyalty.

"Great have been our errors, alarming is our fall; but we are the sons of those, Prince, who, at the cry of *Religion, Country, and King* (three great things which so well unite with liberty), that there has been no undertaking, however great, that we would not have attempted—no sacrifice that we would not have known how to encounter, firmly and boldly.

"Such are the sentiments of Mexico, on its regeneration, such the aspirations with which we have received the honorable charge of presenting faithfully and respectfully to Your Imperial and Royal Highness, the worthy scion of the illustrious dynasty which counts among its glories that of having carried Christian civilization to our own soil on which we live, Prince, and

by which you establish, in this nineteenth century, by so memorable titles, order and true liberty—the happy fruits of that same civilization.

“The task is great, but our confidence in Providence is greater; and that our confidence ought to be so, Mexico as it now is, and Miramar, of this glorious day, thus tell us.”

Archduke Maximilian responded to the foregoing address in the following manner:

“GENTLEMEN :

“I am profoundly grateful for the wishes expressed by the Assembly of Notables, in Mexico, in their session, on the 10th of July, and that you are charged to communicate the same to me.

“It is flattering to our house that the eyes of your compatriots were turned towards the family of Charles V., as soon as the word monarchy was pronounced.

“However noble the task may be of securing the independence and prosperity of Mexico, under the exit of institutions equally stable and free, I do not fail to agree with His Majesty the Emperor of the French, whose glorious initiative has made possible the regeneration of your beautiful country, that the monarchy could not be re-established there, on a perfectly legitimate and solid basis, unless the whole nation, expressing freely its will, would wish to ratify the wishes of the capital. So, then, upon the result of the generality of the votes of the country, I must make depend, in the first place, the acceptance of the throne which is offered me.

“On the other hand, comprehending the sacred duties of a Sovereign, it is necessary that I should demand in favor of the Empire, which is under consideration, the indispensable guarantees in order to place it under protection from the dangers which might threaten its in-

tegrity and independence. In case those pledges for future security should be obtained, and the election of the noble Mexican people, taken as a whole, should fall upon me, I shall be ready, with the consent of the august chief of my family, and confiding in the support of the Almighty, to accept the crown.

“If Providence should call me to the high civilizing mission which is attached to that crown, I declare to you, henceforth, Gentlemen, my firm resolution of following the salutary example of the Emperor my brother, by opening to the country the wide road of progress, by means of a constitutional *régime*, based on order and morality; and to seal with my oath, as soon as that vast territory may be pacified, the fundamental pact with the nation. It is only in this manner that a new and truly national policy can be inaugurated, in which all parties, forgetting their quarrels, will work together to give Mexico the eminent place which appears to be destined for her among nations, under a government which has for its principle equity in justice.

“Remember, Gentlemen, to communicate to your countrymen the determinations which I have just announced to you frankly, and to take the necessary measures to consult with the nation as to the form of government they intend to adopt.”

Turning back again to the territory of Mexico, it was very apparent that, as the French and Mexican allies advanced into the interior, the cities, towns, and villas gave strong evidence of a willing adherence to the Empire. Many chiefs of the Liberal party came under the Imperial banner, while the President and a very few others took refuge in the northern part of the Mexican territory. And the Regency having seen what they considered an expression of a majority of the people in behalf of the Empire, believed the time had arrived