

ALEJANDRO PRIETO

Gobernador del Estado de Tamaulipas.—Gouverneur de l'Etat de Tamaulipas.—Governor of the State of Tamaulipas.



Alejandro Prieto

Il est né le 14 Septembre 1841 dans l'habitation de Chioy, située dans le District du Sud de l'Etat de Tamaulipas. Son père, D. Ramon Prieto, avait été Gouverneur de l'Etat, et sa mère, D^e Rafaela Quintero, appartenait à l'une des principales familles de l'endroit.

Il reçut ses premières leçons à Tampico, mais à onze ans il fut envoyé à Mexico. Il commença ses études au Collège de San Gregorio et les acheva à l'Ecole d'Agriculture, où il obtint le diplôme d'Ingénieur Topographe.

De retour au foyer paternel, il se dédia à l'administration des biens de sa famille; mais il abandonna cette paisible occupation pour entreprendre une œuvre plus patriotique. Il se fit partisan pour défendre la nationalité contre l'intervention française. Prieto déploya toute l'activité qu'exigeait son nouveau caractère militaire, mais à la fin il tomba prisonnier aux mains de Dupin, le chef des compagnies franches françaises.

Prieto fut immédiatement condamné à mort, mais il dut son salut à un mexicain qui servait dans les rangs des volontaires. Le danger qu'il courait fut évité par un coup de main de son compatriote, après lequel il fut relâché et rentra dans son pays au fourreau épée au côté. Il fut libéré de l'ennemi français.

La lutte terminée, Prieto se consacra à tirer dans ses loisirs, mais la guerre civile le chassa de son pays. Il fut engagé dans une guerre qui se termina par la victoire sur les Français.

S'étant rendu pour un motif à Tampico,

There is not of our men of merit who has known how to attain a most solid reputation through his studiousness and talent. He was born on the 14th of September 1841 in the Chioy farm, situated in the Southern District of the State of Tamaulipas. He was the son of Mr. Ramon Prieto, who was at one time Governor of the State and of his wife Mrs. Rafaela Quintero, of a leading family.

He obtained his primary education at Tampico, but when he was eleven years of age he was sent to the capital. He commenced his professional studies at the San Gregorio College and finished them at the School of Agriculture, where he graduated as topographical engineer.

When he returned to his home he began to administer the estate of his family, but abandoned that peaceful occupation to devote himself to a more patriotic one. He became a member of a guerrilla, so as to defend the national cause as against the French intervention. Prieto displayed the activity necessary for his new military character, but at last fell prisoner in the hands of Dupin the French leader.

Prieto was forthwith condemned to death, but he owed his salvation to a Mexican who was fighting by the side of the volunteers. This danger did not occur until he had crossed the line for the volunteers, when he was taken prisoner by the French, which he afterwards escaped with extraordinary skill at the first opportunity.

The war being terminated, Prieto devoted his leisure to his studies, but the civil war drove him from his country, and he was engaged in a series of the struggles which attended the French invasion of the country.

Having returned for a moment to Tampico,

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