

natural home! No emperors! No dictators! No privileged classes! An open field to all intelligences, a free course for all; equal rights, equal duties; equal possibilities, equal responsibilities! these are the sacred privileges of all American citizens throughout the whole western hemisphere, and no sacrifice is too great when they are to be upheld.

J. S. H.

XLI.

Juarez.

Benito Juarez was born in 1809 in the State of Oaxaca which is mostly inhabited by Indians of which race he was a descendant. Poor and without protection, he had to fight his way through all sorts of obstacles and difficulties; but his constancy finally brought him to the fore; he first became Attorney at Law, then was called to the Bar and so far distinguished himself in his profession that he attracted the attention of the political leaders of that period who desired to give their coun-

try the benefit of his brilliant talents.

In 1856 he was elected by his native state as its representative to the national Congress, and, in the following year, he was appointed President of the Supreme Court of Justice, which appointment, in case of an interim, gave him the title and privileges of Vice-President of the Republic.

The public life of Juarez dates from that period. He played a very important part in the civil war, and again in that which he led with so much brilliancy against the French troops sent by Napoleon to uphold the imperial throne of Maximilian. After the latter had paid with his life the penalty of his intrusion, Juarez was re-elected President of the Republic; he immediately convened Congress and worked hard and faithfully to repair the losses caused by the preceding wars.

Juarez arose from the humblest station in life to the highest office in the hands of the people. It was he who finally secured to Mexico the inestimable boon of liberty, and the republican form of government under which it is now progressing: having delivered his country of the possible attempts of any and all of the European powers for ever. He

died whilst still occupying the presidential chair on the 18th of July 1872 leaving in the hands of another of Mexico's illustrious sons the future destinies of his beloved country.

General Porfirio Diaz was the man selected by the people to succeed their liberator. Twenty five years of peace and prosperity are here to proclaim the wisdom of the nation's choice. Under the beneficent rule of Diaz the country has seen the end of its political strifes, the establishment of a public school system and the encouragement of arts and sciences, the development of its industries, the opening of many of its rich mining deposits, the extension of its commerce with the outside world, the enlargement of its cultivable area, the curtailment of expenses in the management of national affairs, the increase of the public revenue, the part payment of the national debt, and a surplus in the federal treasury!

To day, Mexico stands one of the richest fields open to man's energy and industry in the whole world, one which is sought daily by foreign capitalists who, confident in the stability, uprightness and liberality of General Diaz' government, are bringing in millions

of capital to promote the wealth of this ideal country, and one where some of the ablest specialists and many of the finest intellects of Europe and the United States are coming daily to join hands with Mexico's bright, intelligent and industrious people to form one of the grandest nations in the world.

J. S. H.