

# TRUTH AND JUSTICE.

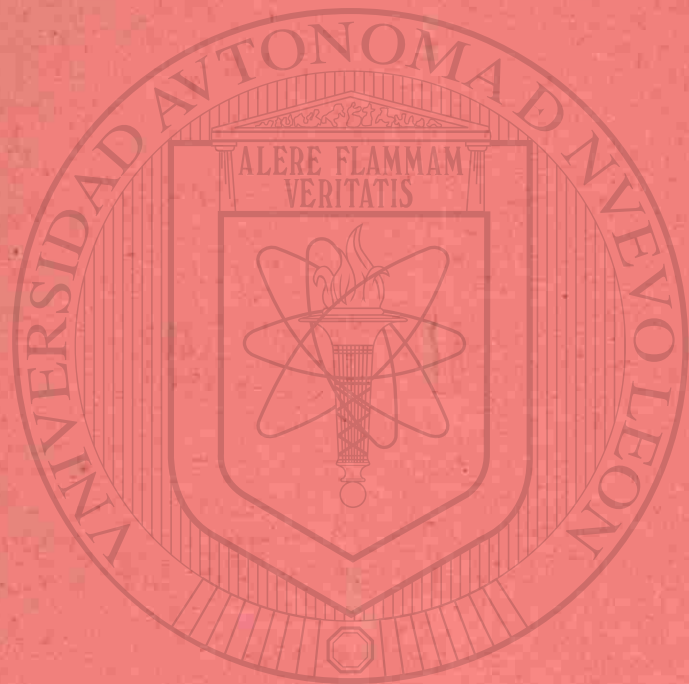
Gen. Bernardo Reyes  
And His Detractors.

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TRANSLATED FROM

"La Voz de Nuevo Leon."

MONTEREY, JULY, 1903.



UNIVERSIDAD AUTÓNOMA DE NUEVO LEÓN  
DIRECCIÓN GENERAL DE BIBLIOTECAS

# TRUTH AND JUSTICE.

Gen. Bernardo Reyes  
And His Detractors.

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## PREFACE.

Truth is indestructible.

It is the Gibraltar against which bold falsehood, cunningly devised contradictions and criminally slanderous misrepresentations dash, unavailing, and are wrecked. It can be denied but not destroyed; covered over but not effaced.

The sun does not cease to shine because clouds obscure it. In time the clouds disappear and its brilliancy again envelopes the earth.

In this case the truth is like the sun.

History can not be obliterated nor can facts be changed. Neither can that which is criminal be converted into that which is good, simply because those who are interested in so doing either do not, or will not, recognize the truth. They may misconstrue or deny facts, mask evil and seek to influence public opinion by misleading articles and illustrations, but in the end truth and justice must prevail. The circumstantial mists which may be conjured up, and which by intrigue may be condensed into storms of passion, must disappear before the piercing rays of the sun, and with them the human and perishable interests responsible for their creation.

To simply state that a man is injurious to society—that his actions in this or that position have been without beneficial effect and prejudicial to the people—is not sufficient to establish belief or influence in the slightest degree a just and honest

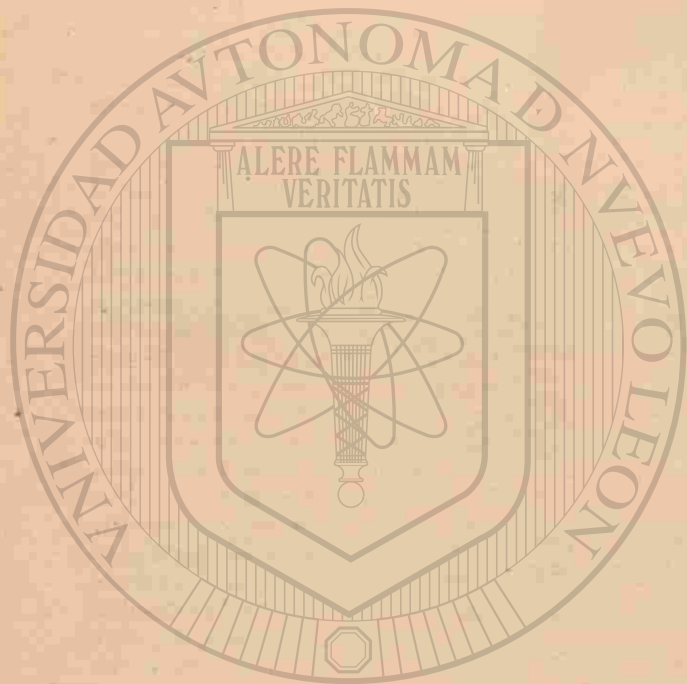
mind. The man's history must be reckoned with, his past actions must be placed in the balance against the statements of those who desire his downfall. If there are those who, ignorant of the questions at issue, hesitate under the influence of false statements, their doubt can exist only until such time as Truth breaks down the barriers of calumny and misrepresentation and appears to confound its enemies. And those who are familiar with the past—who know the facts, but, through hatred or frenzy, seek to bury them—must, with the passing of passion and excitement, although there is no public confession or change of hostile attitude, acknowledge the truth unto themselves—the same truth which through it all it was impossible for their consciences to deny.

To proclaim a crime a meritorious act—to assert that it is just, and simply on such assertion reclothe actions with the versions of those whose all is staked on the crime going unpunished or being attributed to some one else—is but to weaken the foundation of sophistical reasoning and hasten the toppling of the temple of falsehood. The crime remains the crime as much as the truth remains the truth.

The greater the endeavors of malcontents and slanderers, the greater the recoil and their consequent confusion. Their attempts to defame prove the boomerangs that strike them down.



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## Military Services of General Reyes.

Among the military men of Mexico few have played a more active and prominent part than Gen. Bernardo Reyes, Governor of Nuevo Leon.

His career is a part of the history of the Republic. His opportunities and achievements are recorded. The facts stand and can not be changed.

But like every other public man of prominence, Gen. Reyes has his detractors. In Mexico, as in every country of Republican government, the press is used as the principal avenue of attack on public men. It is only natural, therefore, that there are newspaper men—or, at least, alleged newspaper men—acting under the influence of personal spite or jealousy, or as agents for others inspired by similar feelings, bold and impudent enough to assail him. It is such writers who seek to betittle Gen. Reyes' military career and impeach his administration as Governor of Nuevo Leon.

In so far as Bernardo Reyes, the soldier, is concerned, there is but need to refer to Mexico's history for the facts.

It was as a boy that Gen. Reyes entered on his military career. When he joined the Republican forces in the War of the Intervention he was but 16 years of age. From the beginning to the end of that patriotic struggle, through the dark hours when the heroes of Mexico bravely waged unequal war against the Imperial and French armies, Bernardo Reyes, the youthful soldier, was to be found in the Independent army, fighting in the States of Zacatecas and Jalisco and participating in the engagements of Calvillo and Villa Nueva. Later, hav-

ing been promoted from Second to First Lieutenant of Cavalry, he assisted in the bloody capture of Zamora, and then, with the Western forces, to which he belonged, moved against Queretaro. In the latter memorable engagement he was wounded in a hand-to-hand fight.

The fortunes of war next led him to become attached to a column of Cavalry, which, observing the movements of Marquez, contributed to the victory against the Lieutenant of the Imperial army, in the engagement of San Lorenzo. In this engagement Lieut. Reyes received a bayonet wound, but notwithstanding his injury he took part in the beginning of the siege of Mexico. He returned to Queretaro at the close of the so called "Drama of the Empire."

The Republic triumphant, the services of the then Lieut. Reyes were next called for in Sinaloa—in the year 1868—where a rebellion against the Government was in progress. His campaigning there extended into 1869, and the following year he was sent to Zacatecas and Tamaulipas on a similar mission. For his bravery and success in the latter service he was promoted to the rank of Captain.

Near the end of the campaign in Zacatecas the young Lieutenant, then but 20 years of age, received a third wound in a hand-to-hand encounter. In the quelling of the Zacatecas trouble he distinguished himself in a brilliant manner, not only by frequent demonstrations of his well known bravery, but also in his ability as a strategist. A notable instance of this was the saving of an ammunition train of the troop to which he belonged



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from falling into the hands of a powerful force of the enemy.

In 1873, at Mojonera, after vanquishing numerous hordes of Indians, headed by the savage chieftan Lozoda, he was elevated to the position of Platoon Commander.

The nation to which the services of Bernardo Reyes were consecrated next gave recognition of his military ability during the campaign of Tepic. While in the field as Platoon Commander he was made honorary Lieutenant Colonel. In one of the many engagements in which he participated in Tepic, at Santiago Ixcuintla, he was fired on at arm's length, and, although wounded, he routed many of the enemy in almost hand-to-hand combat.

At that time his name was the war cry of the soldiers. That their admiration was given to a man of great character, resolution and purpose was demonstrated by an occurrence in connection with a retreat of the Government troops. The retreat was arranged at a council of war, but Col. Reyes could not bring himself to agree to it. Accordingly he requested and obtained consent to withdraw from the command of the troops under him. The forces alluded to returned to Tepic, and Col. Reyes, after first gaining a victory over the enemy by a sabre charge, returned with them at the head of an advance brigade.

Following the Tepic campaign the young Lieutenant Colonel was sent with a detachment of cavalry to the aid of Sinaloa, in which State the second General in command of the Revolutionary army, Donato Guerra, was making war. He completely routed the revolutionists at Tamiapa in 1876, and for that distinguished victory, in which the number of prisoners captured was greater than the troops he

commanded, he was recommended for promotion.

About that time the Government of Señor Lerdo was terminated by the success of the revolution headed by Gen. Porfirio Diaz. Gen. Diaz was elected President of the Republic, and one of his first acts as Chief Executive was to call to his side the military men who had honorably fallen with the former Government. Among them was Col. Reyes, whose rank as Colonel was immediately confirmed by Gen. Diaz. Following this the President gave the young officer several special commissions to execute, and the promptness and success with which they were carried out won him the rank of Colonel in the regular army.

Col. Reyes next saw active service in the northern part of the Republic, and at the Sierra de la Huasteca, quelling uprisings. From there he went to Sinaloa against ex-Gen. Ramirez Terron, where, among other engagements, there occurred that of Villa Union, classed in military annals as a brilliant feat of arms. In this engagement Col. Reyes had two horses shot from under him and received two serious wounds. Notwithstanding his painful injuries he mounted a third horse, and leading his men in a gallant charge, put the enemy, made up of infantry, cavalry and artillery, completely to rout. This was accomplished in face of the fact that the enemy had all the advantages of position and numbered fully three times the force he commanded, fully one-half of his troops having been killed or wounded during the battle. This extraordinary triumph was so highly appreciated by the Supreme Government that Bernardo Reyes was at once advanced

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two places higher in military rank, being commissioned a Brigadier General.

Following his return from Sinaloa, Gen. Reyes was given command of the First Military Zone. He subsequently started an active campaign against the Apaches in Sonora, and, with the consent of the Government, arranged some grave local difficulties in that State. He then took command of the Sixth Military Zone with headquarters at San Luis Potosi. From there he was sent to the Northern frontier, where he also satisfactorily adjusted some political difficulties. He ended his work by generously pardoning hundreds of men who surrendered to him unconditionally in Monterey, December 1, 1885, and who had riddled his clothes with bullets and killed five soldiers who accompanied him, shooting at a distance of only six meters. Following this he subjugated innumerable gangs of suspicious characters, thereby bringing peace to the Frontier States.

Gen. Reyes' next military achievement was to intervene, in 1893, with the consent of the Federal Government, in a most efficient and beneficial manner, in local trouble which disturbed the State of Coahuila. The trouble was terminated by his intervention, those who had raised the flag of rebellion surrendering their arms to him.

As has been stated, these facts concerning the military career of Gen. Reyes are a part of the history of Republican Mexico. They stand in complete refutation of the statements of those who endeavor to make light of the military services of Gen. Reyes to his Nation. It was because of his unusual ability along military lines that Gen. Reyes, in 1900, was called

upon by President Diaz to take the office of Minister of War. While serving in that distinguished capacity, with the approval of the Chief Executive, he issued certain well directed orders looking to the ending of the civilizing wars in Sonora and Yucatan. And, as Minister of War, he attracted to Mexico the attention of the entire civilized world by raising the standard of the Mexican army, by awakening patriotism among the youth of Mexico, and by grasping with the hand of a master every opportunity to enhance the military strength and consequent standing of the Mexican Republic.

In the same year that he was called to Mexico City to become Minister of War, Gen. Reyes, on the eve of completing 20 years of faithful service as a Brigadier General, was promoted to the high office of General of Division. In this promotion Bernardo Reyes, the self-denying, brave and patriotic soldier of the Nation, reached the apex of a glorious military career. When he resigned as Minister of War, near the end of 1902, he also presented his resignation as General of Division, but this resignation of a position secured by a life-time of efficient service was not accepted by the President of the Republic, ever a discernor of justice.

The efforts of the malcontent newspaper writers to belittle the military achievements of Gen. Reyes—achievements which stand for a life devoted to the service of his country—engender only a feeling of contempt. To place their antecedents in the balance against his antecedents, their pretensions against his accomplishments, would serve to show how far above them towers the man they assail—from what depths they cry out against him.



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## Administration of Gen. Reyes in Nuevo Leon.

Gen. Reyes, dividing his military and political duties, was in the year 1885 named by the Senate Provisional Governor of Nuevo Leon. Following the action of the Senate, he was duly elected Governor by the people of the State, and successively re-elected up to the present time, holding the office continuously with the exception of the two years he was in Mexico City as Minister of War. During those two years he never for a moment lost interest in the affairs of the State. When he went to the National capital to take the high office conferred on him by the President, it was with the formal authorization of the Legislature of Nuevo Leon.

The apparently conscienceless writers referred to, shutting their eyes to the truth which confronts them on every hand, declare that the administration of Gen. Reyes as Governor of Nuevo Leon has been without beneficial results, and that his rule has been that of a tyrant, hampering the interests of those he governs.

History again opens its pages to reveal the truth.

That portion dealing with Nuevo Leon prior to the administration of Gen. Reyes shows a State where security was unknown, divided by political differences, the Government divorced from the governed, with elements scattered and dejected, its energies paralyzed and its fountains of riches closed. But almost from the time Gen. Reyes took up the reins of government history discloses a vastly different picture. It is that of a new Nuevo Leon, a regenerated State where peace and its blessings reign, where life and personal interests are

guaranteed, whose laws encourage industry and commerce, and whose people are awake to the voice of Progress.

With the opening of the Reyes administration harmony of interests was established between the people of the State as well as between the Government and the governed. The rights of every man were established and assured, and an era of peace, progress and prosperity began.

The finances of a State constitute one of the most important branches of government, and to the finances of Nuevo Leon Gen. Reyes turned his attention early in his career as Governor. The lowest possible taxes were uniformly placed in effect and maintained, and today the equal of the system of taxation in Nuevo Leon can not be found in any other State of the Mexican Federation. The Treasury Department was placed on a strictly business basis, and in a short time the State receipts increased to such an extent as to enable the Government to meet all expenses and accomplish great betterments—betterments which had not been even dreamed of by the officials of previous administrations.

The municipal taxes, which, when Gen. Reyes became Governor, varied with each municipality, being established through special regulations for each case, were made uniform without delay, and general laws governing municipal taxation, effective throughout the State, were framed and issued.

To go into details relative to the changes accomplished by Gen. Reyes in this branch of the Government would be to cover unnecessary



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ground. It is suffice to give certain figures which speak eloquently of the benefits accruing to the people of the State under his administration.

In 1885, when Gen. Reyes took charge of the Government, the estimated revenue of the State was \$92,000, and it had been necessary for the preceding administration to collect an additional \$16,000 in taxes to cover a deficit in expenses.

Two years later the revenue of the State had doubled, by virtue of which fact it was possible to increase the force in the branch of Public Instruction, apply more than \$50,000 to the betterment of Monterey and leave a cash surplus of \$20,000 in the Treasury.

In the year 1891 from \$92,000 the receipts of the State reached the sum of \$220,000. During that year some taxes were lowered while others were abolished. Notwithstanding the fact that notable betterments were made in various State branches, and a large amount expended in public improvements, the surplus cash on hand amounted to \$30,000.

In 1895 the State receipts were still further increased, and the excess cash on hand in the Treasury reached the sum of \$70,000.

During the four years following, terminating with 1899, the financial branch of the State Government was firmly established on a safe basis, additions were made to all the public services of the State, and it was possible to devote to public improvements \$135,000 out of the cash in the Treasury.

The taxes, through which these benefits and betterments were accomplished, were not raised, the average per capita taxation being estimated at 65½ cents.

At the beginning of the Reyes administration, in 1885, few cities of Nuevo Leon even covered their expenses. Monterey, the capital and city of by far the greatest revenue, owed even its school teachers their salaries for no less than four months.

By 1887, two years later, the receipts and disbursements of the various cities had not only adjusted themselves, but it was possible, by virtue of surplus receipts, to add materially to the Public Instruction fund.

In 1890 the receipts of the various cities of the State amounted to..... \$605,000.

The disbursements in the same year amounted to..... \$548,000. Resulting in a surplus of... \$57,000.

In 1895 the annual receipts were increased to..... \$1,475,000.

The disbursements were increased to..... \$1,444,000.

In 1895 the general result was as follows:

Receipts..... \$1,893,000.  
Disbursements..... \$1,871,000.

The additions to the expenses represented improvements in all the cities of the State.

Such figures proclaim the excellency, correctness and morality of an administration far better than words of praise.

This splendid condition of affairs in Nuevo Leon was reached without negotiating loans or increasing taxes.

During one calamitous period of drouth Gen. Reyes informed the Chamber of Commerce, made up of men from the various walks of commercial life, that some of the taxes might be lowered, inasmuch as there existed surplus cash which had been intended for public betterments. Then a most remarkable thing happened, in itself a high compliment to the administra-

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tion of Gen. Reyes. The taxpayers of the State declared themselves as against a reduction in taxes, on the ground that the taxes were already low enough and the improvements being made of great benefit to the Commonwealth.

Every other branch of Government was just as keenly looked after by Gen. Reyes, from the time he assumed charge of the State affairs in 1885. The machinery of Justice was placed in perfect condition, and work in that Department pushed as rapidly as possible.

Statistics show that in 1885 the Supreme Court disposed of 330 civil and criminal cases, and the lower Courts 1,100 cases. In 1899 the higher Tribunals disposed of 1,250 cases and the lower Courts 3,200 cases.

The laws of the State, which at the beginning of the Reyes administration covered only the period of 1862 to 1882, inclusive, were under his administration compiled for the period extending from 1824 to 1830, and from 1883 continuously to date. The series of volumes representing this important and laborious work were published.

The codes of both civil and penal branches, as well as those regulating legal procedure in Courts, were subjected to thorough examination, and by arduous work were reformed to meet the demands of progress. Laws were issued governing the organization of Tribunals, and additional Courts were established in order to facilitate the administration of Justice. During the period under consideration not a single accusation was ever made against a member of the Judicial Department. The most severe morals and the greatest possible judicial dispatch has characterized this

branch under the Reyes administration.

Of the material work accomplished by Gen. Reyes in connection with the Department of Justice, the massive stone State Penitentiary stands as an everlasting monument.

Public Instruction—the greatest power in the hands of a sovereign State for the elevation of its people—was up to the time of the beginning of the Reyes administration conducted along ancient and inadequate lines, notwithstanding laudable efforts on the part of preceding administrations to revolutionize the system. Lack of resources caused it to languish to such an extent that the primary schools were unable to show more than a minimum attendance, the preparatory schools in charge of the State made no progress, and the professional schools of Medicine and Jurisprudence lacked even suitable buildings for the necessary instruction. The Normal School for the instruction of teachers was conducted in the form of a bi-weekly class, the students gathering in a city school room; no step had been taken looking to the instruction of female teachers for the primary grades.

In this branch of public service a marvelous change was worked almost with the opening of the Reyes administration. The entire system of Public Instruction was revolutionized under the direction of the State Executive, the work of providing adequate facilities was at once commenced, and the professional courses were thrown open to the women of the State. Increased attendance followed fast on the heels of changes and improvements, and by 1899 the primary school attendance, which in 1885 was 12,000, had doubled. Special educational



laws, framed along the most modern lines of Public Instruction, were promulgated, and Government inspectors were detailed to see that the laws were complied with, insuring uniform instruction throughout the State.

In 1885 the State of Nuevo Leon owned few buildings for school purposes, and the appropriation for providing such buildings was entirely insufficient for material progress in that direction. Two years later, however, it was possible to arrange to apply \$100,000 yearly to the needs of Public Instruction, and in 1895 it was possible to increase this appropriation to \$127,000. By that year the public school property, by reason of the erection of new and modern buildings and their equipment with suitable furniture, represented a value of \$179,000. Four years later this value had increased to \$240,000, and the annual expenses of instruction had reached \$140,000.

These figures demonstrate the wonderful progress made by Public Instruction under the guidance of Gen. Reyes, and the thousands of children drinking the waters of the Fountain of Knowledge form one of the most striking and impressive pictures of his administration.

Particular attention was given to the improvement and advancement of the Normal branch of instruction, and early in the administration of Gen. Reyes special quarters, suitably equipped, were provided for temporary use. Finally a magnificent building was constructed for exclusive use as a Normal School. For years the graduates of the Nuevo Leon Normal School have spread over this and adjoining States.

To the women of the middle class, particularly, the opening of the avenue of Normal instruction proved an im-

measurable boon. Up to that time they were practically without means of higher intellectual advancement, and debarred from professional pursuits. With the Reyes administration came the extension of Normal instruction to include female as well as male students, and provisions similar to those made for the male students were made for the girls and women preparing themselves for the work of teachers and for professional life.

Gratifying results immediately followed this innovation in Public Instruction. The female teachers, holding primary certificates, promptly satisfied the existing necessity for the propagation of primary education.

Through this Normal instruction the woman of the middle class was enabled to fit herself, not only for the highest educational positions, but also for commercial life and the telegraph service. She was prompt to take advantage of the opportunities offered for advancement, and since the opening of the Reyes administration hundreds of girls have annually studied enthusiastically in the professional courses provided for them.

Preparatory instruction was at the start given the necessary progressive impulse, and rapidly extended with the perfection of the system and the improvement of facilities. In the year 1885 the value of property belonging to that branch of Public Instruction was estimated at \$60,000. By reason of additions made to the Civil College building, the purchase of furniture, scientific instruments and other accessories, the property has more than doubled in value.

In the Schools of Medicine and Jurisprudence new and modern rules and regulations were established, their branches of instruction enlarged and

adequate buildings and facilities provided for their work.

The Committee of Public Instruction, over which the Governor presides, was entirely reorganized on a convenient basis for the supervision of that important work of the Government.

"If Gen. Reyes," it has been said in writing on this subject, "could point to no other accomplishment than the reformation of the system of Public Instruction, whereby modern methods were introduced and Normal School advantages provided for people of both sexes, he would, by reason of this alone, be entitled to the gratitude of both the present and future generations."

With relation to State progress and general public improvements the administration of Gen. Reyes presents an unequalled record.

In the report made to Congress in 1885 by the predecessor of Gen. Reyes was the following:

"Commerce.—Our commerce has been materially decaying. In all towns of the State it is in a very afflicted condition."

"Agriculture and Stockraising.—These two sources of State wealth are found in a more lamentable condition than in past years."

"Industries.—The constant competition of our neighbor Republic has brought industrial growth to a standstill."

These quotations from the Government report show the lamentable condition of affairs in the State of Nuevo Leon in 1885. At that time the total number of mines being exploited was 25. But scarcely had Gen. Reyes entered upon his duties as Chief Executive when the decaying industry of mining was exempted from taxation for a long period, with the result that

it at once began to flourish. In 1887, but two years later, the number of mines being worked was 123, in 1891 157 and in 1898 280. The capital represented in the working of the 25 mines in 1885 was \$98,000, and by 1898 the investment in mining property in Nuevo Leon amounted to \$7,500,000.

Through the agency of general laws, all industries established in the State were exempted from taxation for a period of seven years, and similar exemption was also made in the matter of uncultivated agricultural lands. All houses erected in any city of the State were exempted from taxation for a period of five years, and in cases of important buildings this exemption was extended to cover periods up to twenty years.

These beneficial and progressive laws caused men and capital to enter into the work of upbuilding Nuevo Leon. Liberal concessions, provided for under these laws, encouraged heavy investments, and great numbers of laborers were called from every quarter to do the bidding of capital. To these laborers better wages were paid than ever before in the history of the State, and the general prosperity of the laboring classes was thereby advanced.

The industries of the State, which in 1885 were represented by four factories, multiplied at a marvelous rate, and within a few years 37 prosperous industrial concerns were in active operation in Nuevo Leon, representing an investment of \$22,000,000. As a natural result of the industrial activity the demand for property increased, and its value correspondingly advanced.

With the regeneration of the State railways and telephone lines were ex-



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tended, thereby giving greater impetus to commercial progress. At the beginning of the Reyes administration there existed but 10 kilometers of street railway. This was promptly increased to 40 kilometers. The 250 kilometers of telephone lines in operation in 1885 have grown until the network of communication now represents 3,000 kilometers.

The erection of factories continued, commerce advanced with rapid strides and thousands of workmen hastened to participate in Nuevo Leon's festival of work. The decadent Commonwealth, whose sad condition was heralded abroad through the official Government report of 1885, was transformed, as though by miraculous power, into a prosperous and progressive State under an administration which calumniators dare to call harmful.

Some idea of the great increase in business in Nuevo Leon may be gained by a comparison of the receipts of the Stamp Tax offices. In 1885 the total receipts amounted to \$80,000; in a comparatively short time they reached the sum of \$1,000,000.

The census of the State in 1885 gave the population as 241,000; ten years later, in 1895, the inhabitants of Nuevo Leon numbered 334,000.

It was Gen. Reyes who ended the old boundary question, which had been the source of much serious friction between the States of Coahuila and Tamaulipas. He added to the State of Nuevo Leon a strip of land extending to the Rio Grande, establishing at the river the frontier town of Colombia. In this connection it may be appropriately stated that Gen. Reyes, acting in accordance with the instructions of the Interior Department, arranged for the publication of

a perfect geographical map of the State. This is now about ready for press, and represents six years of hard work by the Scientific Commission detailed on this mission. Through this work the State of Nuevo Leon will have its boundary lines well marked.

From the very day that Gen. Reyes took up the reins of government, the course of Nuevo Leon has been forward. His administration is a history of progress; there has not been one day of retrogression. He has guaranteed all interests, and his guarantee has brought people of other States and other Nations to live within the boundaries of Nuevo Leon. And still this is the man and the administration that enemies of their State and their Nation seek to misrepresent.

In a report of Gen. Reyes' predecessor may be found the following:

"The financial condition of the State generally, as well as the financial condition of the towns within its borders, has prevented the carrying out of many contemplated betterments."

This statement was a true portrayal of conditions in 1885, but with the dawn of the new era following the accession of Gen. Reyes the new Chief Executive took up the matter of public betterments with the energy that has characterized his actions throughout his life. Beginning with the completion of the Municipal Palace of Monterey and the Monterey Market House, and the building of the Juarez bridge, he extended his work to the smaller towns, where public buildings and school houses were erected, and where, as in the capital, plazas, public gardens and highways were provided. These betterments were followed by

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the paving of the streets of Monterey and other places, the erection of notable public buildings, prominent among them schools for higher education, and the erection of monumental edifices such as the State Penitentiary and the Government Palace. All these improvements bore testimony to the flourishing condition of the State, as they represented an aggregate expenditure of over \$2,000,000.

And in the face of this record of public good, of untiring energy for the welfare of the State, the slanderers of Gen. Reyes cry out that his administration has not been beneficial.

The administration of Gen. Reyes is a part of the history of Nuevo Leon; it forms its most brilliant pages. This history is ineffaceable.

In the course of human events it might be possible for hours of insecurity, in so far as persons and property are concerned, to return to Nuevo Leon; but the fact that wrongdoing was persistently prosecuted and guarantees secured by the strict application of laws for the suppression of evil during the administration of Gen. Reyes must stand as a matter of record—a monument to the efficiency of his government.

It is within the range of possibility that a time might come when the finances of the State would be again exhausted, and the Treasury Department relapse into its former impoverished condition. But State history would still tell of that period of abundance, during which the Treasury, after satisfying all the needs of the Government, which became more complex as the State progressed, distributed the excess wealth by making public improvements throughout the

Commonwealth. And no less would State history tell that the period of abundance was due to the beneficent and business-like rule of Gen. Bernardo Reyes.

Human agencies might re-establish the ancient system of judicial procedure, modify laws in a reactionary manner and dispense with Penitentiary regulations; but the record of the present activity in judicial affairs, the progressive reforms made in the laws, the Penitentiary regulations and the Penitentiary itself, would, under such calamitous circumstances, announce to the world that under the administration of Gen. Reyes the people of Nuevo Leon enjoyed ideal laws and just and progressive judicial procedures.

The present efficient system of Public Instruction might be destroyed, the school houses emptied of their pupils, the teachers left unpaid, the professional instruction of women done away with, the schools and colleges confiscated and used for other purposes; but that under the government of Gen. Reyes Public Instruction was elevated, that strict attention was given to the selection and training of teachers, that public schools were erected in various parts of the State, that to thousands of children was extended the boon of education, that to women was given the means of professional advancement—all this can not be obliterated and must stand an everlasting attest to the character and purposes of the man and his fitness to hold the high office of Governor of one of the greatest States of the Mexican Federation.

Every reaction within human power might come to pass; every artery of commerce might be closed and every voice of industry stilled—but the



monuments which Gen. Bernardo Reyes has reared during the years of his Governorship would endure, great testimonials to the flourishing condition of the State and its people during the time that he watched over the destiny of Nuevo Leon. Regardless of the circumstances of the future, these monuments will forever bear witness to the faithful service of Gen. Reyes to his State, to the excellency of an administration which deserves the sincerest praise of all just people—that administration which, owing to political differences contrary to the interests of the country, has been assailed by those who, lacking even a pretext on which to base their allegations, have resorted to malicious falsehood and slanderous misrepresentation.

Can the defamers of Gen. Reyes, in their frenzied eagerness to obliterate the facts of his administration, destroy the landmarks of its daily pro-

gress and raze the monuments erected by his hands?

It would require ages to accomplish such pernicious work. But, granting that such would be possible, with the clearing away of the dust of the ruins History would appear, unchanged, to pay its tribute to the actions of a man who faithfully served his Nation and his State.

The name of Carthage and the renown of its greatness exist today, notwithstanding its destruction during the period of the Punic Wars.

At the present time, happily for the Nation, war, with its battles—lamentable but oft times bringing glorious victories—is not engaging attention. Instead of powerful factions in arms, a contemptible war of intrigue must be reckoned with, the venomously poisoned arrows of those involved in it being directed at the spotless armor of a gallant soldier and a great statesman.

## The Political and Criminal Intrigue Against General Reyes.

What the Republic of Mexico owes to Gen. Reyes as a soldier, and what the State of Nuevo Leon owes to him as a Governor, has been superficially touched upon.

Throughout his career as a soldier and statesman the personality of Gen. Reyes stands out clear and strong, ever an influence for good. But against this personality have been launched charges—so utterly absurd as not to deserve consideration were it not for the maliciousness with which they are clothed. The hands that launched these charges are the same that fain would tear down the monuments of History and consign to oblivion the antecedents of Gen. Reyes.

"It was Gen. Reyes," declare these enemies of public good, "who, on the 2nd of April, last, ordered that an opposing political demonstration be terminated by armed force."

The demonstration in question was held under the mask of the celebration of the glorious victory achieved by Gen. Diaz in action against the Imperial troops, 36 years ago.

The question naturally arises, why was it that these intriguers had the audacity to launch such absurdly false and slanderous charges without fear that their infamy would recoil on them in the shape of legal punishment due such action? A brief explanation is due, because under ordinary circumstances it would seem inconceivable that such calumny could be given birth in the midst of a society for whose good the accused had

consecrated his services—in a law abiding community where acts deserving of esteem and respect should not be allowed to be made the objects of attack on the part of the audacious and criminal.

At a time previous to the attack on Gen. Reyes preparations of great importance, affecting the general politics of the country, were in progress at the National capital. Gen. Diaz, wishing to retire from the Presidency, inspired by a noble and patriotic desire to see his country continue to march majestically onward under the direction of a personality other than his own, undertook the work of combining and harmonizing certain elements with a view of assuring the permanency of his great National work.

A certain man was selected to lead in carrying out the work outlined by President Diaz, and to him was given power and prestige. The foremost of his supporters had previously formed a political group, prominent in which were some men who had never inspired the confidence of the country. A homogeneous Ministry was formed, of which Gen. Reyes became a member. But from the day that he took charge of the Department of War certain members of the group before mentioned manifested hostility to the Executive of Nuevo Leon. This hostility and consequent lack of confidence soon made it apparent that it would be impossible to amalgamate the different elements, and this finally proved to be the case. As a result



monuments which Gen. Bernardo Reyes has reared during the years of his Governorship would endure, great testimonials to the flourishing condition of the State and its people during the time that he watched over the destiny of Nuevo Leon. Regardless of the circumstances of the future, these monuments will forever bear witness to the faithful service of Gen. Reyes to his State, to the excellency of an administration which deserves the sincerest praise of all just people—that administration which, owing to political differences contrary to the interests of the country, has been assailed by those who, lacking even a pretext on which to base their allegations, have resorted to malicious falsehood and slanderous misrepresentation.

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Gen. Diaz abandoned his plans for a change in the Presidency.

The hostility of these partisan factions to Gen. Reyes grew to such an extent that their leaders even refused to respect the wishes of the one who should have been their director, and who, it may be said, was on the most friendly terms with Gen. Reyes. Gen. Reyes was attacked by these factions through the medium of various politically colored journals, and, being vigorously defended by other newspapers, wishing to prevent his name being used as a pretext for dissensions in the Government—as he officially stated—he resigned his office as Minister of War and returned to Nuevo Leon to again take up the reins of Government.

With the return of Gen. Reyes to Nuevo Leon, his enemies carried the war on him to this State, using the advantages which the high positions in which they had been placed—for the purpose of effecting the contemplated political change—in an effort to injure him.

In Nuevo Leon they sought malcontents to serve as their instruments against Gen. Reyes, whose re-election was the subject of discussion from the hour of his return to Monterrey. These malcontents were found in the chaff which the Reyes administration had swept aside in its onward march of progress, and they, encouraged by the leaders and the leaders' journals in the National capital, ignoring merit, truth and justice, took up calumny and slander as their weapons sible to attack only through false charges.

These traitors to their State were informed by the principals in Mexico City that, in order to bring about a

change of attitude on the part of the Supreme Head of the Nation, who is invariably on the side of justice, and who favored Gen. Reyes, who was the universal candidate of the people of Nuevo Leon for re-election as Governor, it would be necessary to go to the greatest possible extremes. As the opposing group had no one worthy to be placed as a candidate against Gen. Reyes, they were reduced to the plight of having to choose a ridiculous figure, respecting whose antecedents it would be loss of time to speak. With this man as their "dummy," they began an active war of misrepresentation and slander. Being adepts in such lines, without antecedents to protect and nothing to lose, they entered with impunity into one of the blackest intrigues ever launched against a public man of prominence since the restoration of the Republic.

From the leaders in Mexico City the Nuevo Leon traitors received instructions to use every means to provoke a state of siege in this State, and were lured into the belief that in the event of their being interfered with by the local authorities they would be protected by Federal action; that Federal troops would come to their assistance; that the influence of persons of high standing would be used in their behalf, and that they would even find favor with members of the National Congress. As a result of this deception there was witnessed in Monterrey, the capital of one of the most prosperous and progressive States of the Mexican Republic, an exhibition of audacity on the part of criminals and scandal mongers, in the midst of exemplary society, probably unparalleled in the history of any Republic.

From out of this hotbed of intrigue there issued the lawless yells in the manifestation of February 5th, last,—the seditious sheets published in this city, whose falsehoods were strenuously echoed by those dailies in Mexico City in the service of the malicious leaders there, who lost no opportunity to fan the flame of sedition—the rowdyish actions on the part of sixteen students of the School of Jurisprudence—the plans for the banding together of inebriates and others more criminal, in which company insults to the Government were as frequent as unmentionable acts—the threats of the sheet "Redencion," which, in its first issue, appearing in the month of February, announced that a political demonstration against Gen. Reyes would be made on the 2nd of April, the day on which the Nation celebrates the anniversary of a great triumph, in Monterrey and other towns of the State (which latter proved impossible for the reason that in none of the smaller towns were there to be found persons willing to follow the agitators in the capital)—the threat published in the sheet "Justicia," referring to a demonstration which it stated was already arranged for—the instructions for the purchase of pistols at the hardware stores and pawnshops in anticipation of the events planned to follow—and finally the responsibility for the seditious proceedings of the 2nd of April at the Plaza Zaragoza, when two citizens, innocent of any part in the demonstration, were killed, together with three policemen, all of whom were shot from behind, and three citizens and three policemen were wounded seriously.

And it is this murderous action, which had been threatened and for

which preparations had been made, which was started by some pre-arranged means or by some of the drunken demonstrators, and in which the victims of treacherous shots in the back were policemen, not one of the demonstrators being killed, which the originators, believing themselves protected in any extreme of calumny, have sought to charge to the Chief Executive of the State, whose every thought and action has been for the welfare of the people he governs.

No better demonstration of the low moral level reached by the enemies of Gen. Reyes could be possible than this accusation, hurled at him by criminals and their accomplices, in the hope of injuring his political standing, as though a low, barefaced lie, shouted from the gutter by intriguers and propagated by a maliciously directed press, would be sufficient to accomplish such an end.

But perversions of truth and lying offers of help were necessary to encourage the idle and vicious persons in Monterrey, and the members of the "Ponciano Arriaga" Club in Mexico City, which organization is known by its Anarchistic tendencies; to turn the heads of others and throw them into criminal action; to encourage, in the midst of cultured society, in a Nation characterized by order, justice and morality, the daring and insolence resulting in the recent alarm—daring and insolence that reached such a stage that actual criminals, strutting about with unequalled boldness, dared to attempt to shoulder a crime for which they were responsible on the shoulders of the Governor of the State, a man holding front rank in the confidence and respect of the Nation.



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And that "Ponciano Arriaga" Club, of Anarchistic tendencies, dared to put the slanderous accusation in form and take it before the dignified and honorable Representative Body of the Nation.

It is but reasonable to suppose that in the due course of time the penalty of the law will fall on the intriguers and defamers, not only in satisfaction to the persons so viciously attacked, but also in satisfaction to the society outraged and the Nation injured. Should the Nation allow such actions to go unpunished it might expect that misrepresentation and falsehood would regularly appear at the Bench of Justice to plead for the downfall of just and honorable men, who by sacrifices and ability had gained the respect and admiration of their countrymen. Reparation will be as certain as the case is exceptional, as far reaching as the intrigue formed by the enemies of a faithful public servant.

Formidable antagonism has already come to the scene. It could not be otherwise. Antagonism to that residue found far below the goodness and greatness of the people of Nuevo Leon; to the insatiable, unrestrained ambition of those who for years have conducted a school of intrigue in the

capital of the Republic; to that group of men who claim to be liberals but are not liberals, in whose midst the Medusa headed Anarchy looms up; to all those corrupt elements which were combined to form that venomous black wave that was launched against the figure of Gen. Reyes for the purpose of overthrowing and destroying him. It is antagonism against incapable and outcast people, weak and vicious enough to be easily influenced into any manner of corruption; against the intriguers of Mexico City, whose ambitious aims are in direct opposition to the wise and prudent policy which has the welfare of the Republic as its end—a policy supported by Gen. Reyes under the regenerator of the Nation, the illustrious Gen. Diaz—and who are eager to destroy any man and any policy found blocking their traitorous steps; and against the Arriaguists, who might be more properly spoken of as Anarchists, who dared to file monstrous charges against the President of the Republic, as they dared to file charges against Gen. Reyes, before the National Congress.

The black wave was rent asunder with the criminal outbreak of the 2nd of April, and swept away with the last effort, the so-called "accusation."

## Protests and Testimony Against the Slander— Evidence of Latter.

When the black wave formed by the combination of vicious elements threw itself upon Gen. Reyes, it did not find him alone, much less weak. It came upon him in the midst of his duties as Governor of Nuevo Leon, and it found him surrounded by the affections of a people acclaiming him as their candidate for re-election—a great people, who, notwithstanding the fury of the attack made against him, hesitated not a single instant in supporting him throughout the territory of the State. And while obstructionists and malcontents, encouraged by the leaders in the intrigue, made crude war upon him, these staunch supporters, in various ways and in various places, gave striking evidence of their admiration and friendship. On the morning of the 2nd of April, at the very hour when less than a kilometer distant guardians of the public peace were being assassinated by the enemies of Gen. Reyes, 2,500 of these supporters gathered together to publicly acclaim him as their candidate for re-election. And in that patriotic demonstration Gen. Reyes generously counseled his supporters to respect the political opinions of his opponents.

With the rending asunder of the black wave of misrepresentation and slander came the imprisonment and scattering of those responsible for the crime of the 2nd of April. And later came the contradiction of their false charges by overwhelming testimony.

On March 25th, 1903, the commercial, banking, professional, industrial

and laboring interests of Nuevo Leon sent to Gen. Reyes the following written manifestation of support and gratitude:

"General: On the occasion of your temporary absence from the Executive Office of this State to worthily occupy the high position of Minister of War and Marine in the Cabinet of the illustrious President of the Republic, Gen. Porfirio Diaz, the banking, commercial, industrial, professional and laboring interests of the State expressed, in writing, regret at your separation from the State, which, owing to your energy, ability and unimpeachable integrity, had taken front rank among the States of the Mexican Federation.

"This expression of regret carried with it the gratitude of the people of the entire State, who fully appreciated the benefits they had received at your hands.

"By virtue of your wise, energetic and prudent government, General, peace was brought to Nuevo Leon and perfect harmony reigned among all classes. These changes in conditions attracted large amounts of capital, which was distributed throughout the State; resulted in the opening of many schools; caused commerce to flourish; created industrial and credit institutions, which greatly increased the general wealth, and brought about a multitude of other benefits which are now the pride and honor of this powerful and industrious people.

"And now, by reason of your return to again take charge of this State, taking advantage of the fortunate cir-



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cumstances of the recent inauguration of two mammoth industries, which were started under your previous personal administration, and which it is believed will be of great benefit, not only to the State of Nuevo Leon, but to the economic conditions of the Nation, we, who are not connected with politics, who devote ourselves to our work, who ask from the Government only the guarantees desired by those who seek an honest livelihood, who look for the preservation of the peace established by the illustrious President of the Republic, Don Porfirio Diaz, again make public our sentiments of gratitude, previously expressed, tendering another vote of confidence for your beneficent and honorable administration."

The Victoria Club, in an enthusiastic meeting held in the Juarez Theater on the night of April 25th, agreed to formulate, and did formulate the following protest, which, signed by over 500 citizens of Nuevo Leon, was submitted to the Congress of the Nation:

"We, the undersigned members of the Victoria Club, residents of Monterey and in the full enjoyment of our rights, in meeting assembled, on the date below written, in the Juarez Theater of this city, hereby make known that we have learned through several newspapers of the Capital of the ac-cusation made against Gen. Reyes, Governor of the State of Nuevo Leon, before the National Congress, by the members of the Ponciano Arriaga Club; that as residents of this city we are fully informed of public occur-rences, particularly that of the 2nd of the present month, and the state-ments embodied in the accusation here referred to are absolutely false.

"Further, that we wish to make

known that the accusation, relative to which Congress will take proper ac-tion, not only affects the official ac-cused, but gravely, and without rea-son, injures the State, because it cre-ates the false impression, should the statements of the accusers be be-lieved, that an intolerable condition of affairs exists. And we consider it our duty as citizens of this State to publicly proclaim that such a condi-tion does not exist, for the reason that silence on our part, who are in a position to know, might be con-strued as a partial confirmation.

"As a result of these circumstances we therefore resolve:

"First—That the Victoria Club pro-tests against the false and misleading statements contained in the accusa-tion presented before the Congress of the Nation by the Ponciano Arriaga Club, directed against Gen. Bernardo Reyes, Governor of Nuevo Leon.

"Second—That these original reso-lutions be taken to Congress for the information of the members, and that if possible they be filed with the ori-ginal accusation.

"Third—That the protest contained herein be transmitted, by telegraph, to the President of the Republic, for his knowledge.

"Monterey, April 25th, 1903."

At a mass meeting of residents of Monterey, in which were a number of witnesses of the occurrences of the 2nd of April, and among whom all professions and various lines of busi-ness and labor were represented, resolutions were prepared and for-warded, on April 26th, the same as the resolutions of the Victoria Club, to the Chamber of Deputies in Mexico City. These resolutions, which were signed by more than 3,000 persons,

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including men of every walk in life, millionaires as well as laborers, read as follows:

"We, the undersigned citizens of Monterey, in the full enjoyment of our rights, having learned of the accusation against Gen. Reyes, pre-sented before the Chamber of Depu-ties of the Federal Congress by the members of the Ponciano Arriaga Club, from absolute knowledge of the occurrence referred to, declare that the accusation is notoriously false.

"We further declare that the ac-cusation against Gen. Reyes is prej-udicial to the credit and good name of the State, inasmuch as, regardless of the truth, the Chief Executive is charged with atrocities; and we take this means of formally denying the assertions made, pending the investi-gation, which, when completed, will make known the true facts.

"And as an act of patriotism, as this matter pretains to the Government of Nuevo Leon, and according to our duty as citizens who have received un-limited benefits at the hands of the accused Chief Executive, we have adopted the following resolutions in the hope that they may throw light on the facts and aid justice to prevail:

"First—Resolved, that the under-signed protest against the false state-ments contained in the accusation made against Gen. Bernardo Reyes, Governor of Nuevo Leon, and present-ed before the Chamber of Deputies of the Congress of the Union by the members of the Ponciano Arriaga Club.

"Second—Resolved, that these res-olutions be sent to the Chamber of Deputies for the information of its members, and for the pur-pose, if they see fit, of being at-

tached to the accusation in question. "Monterey, April 26th., 1903."

In a meeting held on April 25th, the Honorable Legislature of the State of Nuevo Leon adopted the following significant resolutions:

"Resolved—That the Thirty-first Constitutional Congress of the State of Nuevo Leon tender a vote of con-fidence to the Governor of the State, Gen. Bernardo Reyes, and declare that his executive actions are strictly in accordance with law.

"Resolved—That these resolutions be transmitted to the Federal Con-gress and to the President of the Re-public, and also to the Governor of the State."

This fire of public indignation in Monterey extended to other towns of the State, among whose inhabitants were some witnesses of the occurrence of the 2nd of April, and similar public protests against the accusation concerning Gen. Reyes were made. Mon-temorelos, San Nicolas Hidalgo, Mina, Cadereyta, Allende and Gral. Teran contributed to such protests. Among the protests is also a letter, signed by 23 opponents of Gen. Reyes, who side with justice and protest against the false accusation.

At the head of the multitude of protests brought out by the accusation against Gen. Reyes is that made by Deputies for the State of Nuevo Leon to the Chamber of Deputies of the National Congress. It reads as follows:

"In the recent session, held on the 26th of the present month, an accusa-tion was presented before this body by the Liberal Club 'Ponciano Ar-riaga' against Gen. Bernardo Reyes, Governor of Nuevo Leon, which State we have the honor to represent. Not



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withstanding that in the preamble of this document various acts are set forth, designated as grave crimes, attributed to this official, they do not, as might be expected, form a basis for the charges made, but merely serve to show the malevolence and malignity of the accusers. For this reason they do not deserve our consideration. In respect to the direct charges, however, it is different. Their nature is such as to require our immediate intervention, for fear that our silence might be construed as a passive confirmation, or a tacit confession of our unwillingness to comply with our most sacred duties.

"The accusers, echoing the false and calumnious fables invented by the agitators in Nuevo Leon, and their more or less sincere accomplices in the City of Mexico, accuse Gen. Reyes of having broken up, by means of armed force, a parade of his political opponents, held for the purpose of celebrating the anniversary of the glorious victory of the 2nd of April; of causing police and soldiers distributed in the streets and on the roofs of surrounding buildings to fire into the crowd. To this startling story they add statements of imprisonments, orders for assassination, etc., some serious, some absurd, but all showing malevolence and venom.

"It seems almost beyond belief that history could be so falsified, facts so changed and truth so disguised, so shortly after an occurrence, especially when communication is now instantly possible and railroads bring cities so close together. It also seems passing strange that so little respect should be shown the National Representation as to bring to its knowledge such a series of defamations, whose simple

presentation should excite the indignation of all just and impartial men.

"The Deputation from Nuevo Leon, the majority of whose members were in Monterey at the time of the occurrence referred to, now formally makes known to this body that the statements made by the Ponciano Arriaga Club are wholly false, and would deserve nothing but contempt did they not disclose such grave guilt on the part of the originators.

"The truth is that the opposition to Gen. Reyes, which in this accusation is made to appear the victim of an official attack, hypocritically mixing their petty interests with the celebration of a great National triumph, apparently prepared for the proceedings, of which they now complain, beforehand, arming themselves, spreading alarming information throughout the city, and boldly announcing that blood would flow on the morning of the 2nd of April.

"The disgraceful occurrence of the day mentioned is attributed solely to this same opposition, the members either provoking what happened by their attitude and contempt for public order, or deliberately planning the entire proceeding which resulted in the murder of several policemen and the accidental killing and wounding of several men in the crowd.

"It is not the desire of the Nuevo Leon Deputation to prejudice the opinion of the Chamber in respect to this matter, for the members neither have the right to do so, nor would it be judicious to become involved in a proceeding, which has been regularly and properly taken up, before the time prescribed by the Regulations. They only demand that the action of this Honorable Body be awaited, when

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they feel that the position they have taken will be justified and their good names sustained.

"It is incontrovertible that, if the statements made in this accusation were true, it would be the duty of the representatives of Nuevo Leon in this Honorable Body, more than that of any others, to impeach the Governor of that State for malfeasance in office.

"The people of Nuevo Leon have conferred on the members of this Deputation their representation; they are bound to maintain inviolable the rights of the people who elected them to the positions they occupy.

"Our silence, therefore, would merit the sharpest censure, indicating either a lack of knowledge of our duty or complicity in the intrigue, especially as the individuals who have raised their voices before this House, assuming our functions and pretending to know things which have no foundation in truth, are foreigners to Nuevo Leon. This meddling of foreign agents in the affairs of our State, was there the slightest pretext for such action, would imply neglect of duty on our part. This, then, is the reason we have deemed it our duty to clearly state our position in the matter of this accusation. And, in order that there may be no misunderstanding, we announce that our silence up to this time has signified neither passive confirmation of the charges made against the Governor of Nuevo Leon nor submissive acceptance of them. We have not raised our voices because the crimes alleged at Monterey do not exist outside the imaginations of a group of conscienceless malefactors; because what has been said relative to these matters

has been the result of an infamous intrigue, conducted by a handful of politicians, blinded by ambition and impelled by jealous hatred; because our positions as representatives of the people of Nuevo Leon, whom they attempt to make appear as victims of unjust treatment and savage assault, is not on the level of such scandal-mongers, but on the side of truth, justice and right. We leave to the accusers in this matter the satisfaction of having brought to the attention of this Assembly the most colossal defamation in the history of the Republic; the satisfaction of having attempted to vent their black hatred against a high official of this Republic, engaging with the voice of rancor the attention of this grave audience.

"Subsequent events will show whether defamatory and slanderous accusations, which are prohibited and punishable under the penal code, are means for revenge permitted in this Hall; whether such acts cease to become punishable as crimes before the Congress of the Nation. If here, as elsewhere, they are crimes, they should be severely dealt with, particularly as they would then constitute an outrage on this Honorable Assembly.

"In the meantime, we discharge our duty by herewith formally declaring that the charges brought by the Ponciano Arriaga Club against the Governor of Nuevo Leon are absolutely false and libellous, and this document is framed to set forth our position in the matter.

"We beg of the Assembly that this document be sent to the First Commission of the Grand Jury, the members of which are already proceeding



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with the investigation of this matter.  
"Hall of Sessions of the Chamber of Deputies,

"Mexico, April 22nd, 1903.

"Francisco Martinez Baca,

"Manuel Serrano,

"Jesus Maria Cerda,

"L. Sepulveda,

"Jose Lopez Portillo y Rojas."

Gen. Reyes is not alone, and further more is not weak. He will see the black wave so furiously launched against him disappear without leaving a single stain.

Truth and justice are eternal and will prevail.

As was said in the beginning:

History can not be obliterated nor can facts be changed. Neither can that which is criminal be converted into that which is good, simply because those who are interested in so doing either do not, or will not, recognize the truth.

Future events in connection with this matter will more clearly reveal the truth and bring to Justice its proper homage.

Just Action By Certain Opponents of Gen. Reyes.

From "El Espectador" is taken the following article:

"Monterey, April 28th, 1903.

Dr. Ramon Treviño,

"Director of El Espectador,

"City.

"Dear Sir:—For the confusion of certain persons, who, we are sorry to say, are natives of Mexico, we beg to hand you herewith a letter received by us, signed by various gentlemen of the opposition, relative to the disgraceful occurrence of the 2nd of this month, for publication in your fearless daily if you deem the same consistent. We are

"Yours truly,

"Florentino Cantu,

"Ricardo B. Panza."

"In compliance with the request of the transmitters, the letter addressed to them follows:

"Monterey, April 23rd, 1903.

"Messrs. Florentino Cantu and Ricardo B. Panza,

"Gentlemen:—To the various confidential questions, which, based upon our friendship, you have put to us, we take pleasure in replying as follows:

"First—We are not in favor of Gen. Reyes' re-election as Governor of Nuevo Leon, not because we do not consider him deserving of that exalted honor, but because we believe, in accordance with Article 81 of the State Constitution, that he is debarred from re-election, and because we would prefer to see in his place a son of Nuevo Leon.

"Second—We were at Porfirio Diaz park among the participants of the celebration on the morning of the 2nd of April, and were at Plaza Zaragoza at the time of the disgrace-

ful occurrence of that date, which we all sincerely regret.

"Third—Some of us were on horseback in front of the Casino building at the hour of the riot, and can testify that not a single shot was fired from the building. Had there been firing from the building it is only reasonable that some of us, forming the line in front, would have fallen. The same can be said of the Municipal Palace from where, we know, no shots were fired. And here, we of the Cavalry, wish to announce that we were not commanded by poltroons and cowards, like Carlos Leal Isla and Andres Viteri, who were taken by Adolfo Garcia Flores from under a pile of rubbish in the river bed after the riot.

"Fourth—We went to the demonstration at the Alameda thinking that it related to a National celebration, and the only chief we recognized was our able friend, Don Miguel Morelos-Zaragoza.

"Fifth—We reiterate that we went to the demonstration because we understood that it was exclusively in honor of the hero of the glorious battle of the 2nd of April, 1867, to render the honor and love we feel for our great President, General of Division Don Porfirio Diaz, and we had not the slightest intimation of what was to follow.

"Sixth—We can state in absolute truthfulness that among the participants in the demonstration of the morning of April 2nd, lead by the members of the Nuevo Leon Electoral Convention, there were many intoxicated persons, and that one of these



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"L. Sepulveda,

"Jose Lopez Portillo y Rojas."

Gen. Reyes is not alone, and further more is not weak. He will see the black wave so furiously launched against him disappear without leaving a single stain.

Truth and justice are eternal and will prevail.

As was said in the beginning:

History can not be obliterated nor can facts be changed. Neither can that which is criminal be converted into that which is good, simply because those who are interested in so doing either do not, or will not, recognize the truth.

Future events in connection with this matter will more clearly reveal the truth and bring to Justice its proper homage.

Just Action By Certain Opponents of Gen. Reyes.

From "El Espectador" is taken the following article:

"Monterey, April 28th, 1903.

Dr. Ramon Treviño,

"Director of El Espectador,

"City.

"Dear Sir:—For the confusion of certain persons, who, we are sorry to say, are natives of Mexico, we beg to hand you herewith a letter received by us, signed by various gentlemen of the opposition, relative to the disgraceful occurrence of the 2nd of this month, for publication in your fearless daily if you deem the same consistent. We are

"Yours truly,

"Florentino Cantu,

"Ricardo B. Panza."

"In compliance with the request of the transmitters, the letter addressed to them follows:

"Monterey, April 23rd, 1903.

"Messrs. Florentino Cantu and Ricardo B. Panza,

"Gentlemen:—To the various confidential questions, which, based upon our friendship, you have put to us, we take pleasure in replying as follows:

"First—We are not in favor of Gen. Reyes' re-election as Governor of Nuevo Leon, not because we do not consider him deserving of that exalted honor, but because we believe, in accordance with Article 81 of the State Constitution, that he is debarred from re-election, and because we would prefer to see in his place a son of Nuevo Leon.

"Second—We were at Porfirio Diaz park among the participants of the celebration on the morning of the 2nd of April, and were at Plaza Zaragoza at the time of the disgrace-

ful occurrence of that date, which we all sincerely regret.

"Third—Some of us were on horseback in front of the Casino building at the hour of the riot, and can testify that not a single shot was fired from the building. Had there been firing from the building it is only reasonable that some of us, forming the line in front, would have fallen. The same can be said of the Municipal Palace from where, we know, no shots were fired. And here, we of the Cavalry, wish to announce that we were not commanded by poltroons and cowards, like Carlos Leal Isla and Andres Viteri, who were taken by Adolfo Garcia Flores from under a pile of rubbish in the river bed after the riot.

"Fourth—We went to the demonstration at the Alameda thinking that it related to a National celebration, and the only chief we recognized was our able friend, Don Miguel Morelos-Zaragoza.

"Fifth—We reiterate that we went to the demonstration because we understood that it was exclusively in honor of the hero of the glorious battle of the 2nd of April, 1867, to render the honor and love we feel for our great President, General of Division Don Porfirio Diaz, and we had not the slightest intimation of what was to follow.

"Sixth—We can state in absolute truthfulness that among the participants in the demonstration of the morning of April 2nd, lead by the members of the Nuevo Leon Electoral Convention, there were many intoxicated persons, and that one of these



GEN. BERNARDO REYES AND HIS DETRACTORS.

was responsible for the beginning of the riot that followed.

"Seventh—We gladly take the opportunity to do justice to the Chief of Police, by stating that he conducted himself in a most meritorious manner, doing all that was possible to preserve order and urging on his subordinates the greatest prudence.

"Eighth—We are for peace, order and harmony, and wish for the honor of our State, that the press abstain from exploiting this unfortunate occurrence, for which in no way was our authorities to blame.

"We hereby authorize you to make such use of this letter as you see fit.

"We are

"Respectfully yours,

"Justo Cortes, Emilo Rordiguez, Felipe J. Padilla, N. Garcia Garza, Manuel Flores, Antonio Ovalle, Julio Marina, Marciano Gomez, Manuel E. Garza, Cesareo Cantu Trevino, Daniel Cantu, José R. Cantu, Severo Mendoza Escobedo, Pedro Garza, Donaciano Verastegui, Federico Arreola, Amador Bocanegra, Ezequiel S. Garcia, Eligio Ramirez, E. Sanchez Martinez, Pedro Saucedo, H. Arvalo Gregorio

Ramirez Garza, Francisco Delgado, Pedro Nieto, Lorenzo Silva, Espiridion J. Martinez, Daniel Espinosa, Pascual Torres."

The foregoing letter sets forth the manifest mendacity of the newspapers "El Pais," "Diario del Hogar" and "Monitor," which stated, in publishing accounts of the riot of April 2nd, last, that from the Municipal Palace and Casino building the men, whose conduct brought about the riot, were fired on.

Slowly, but surely, the malevolent intentions, born and nourished in a hotbed of criminal intrigue, are being exposed.

The newspapers herein referred to, echoing those which were voicing slander and jealous hatred in their columns, attempted the contemptible task of defaming the authorities and people of Nuevo Leon.

Today, however, facts are seen in their true light. The letter referred to places each in its proper sphere—the Government of Nuevo Leon in its own dignified position—the vituperative scandal mongers in the depths which they have chosen for their abode.

APPENDIX.

The following is the official declaration of the Chamber of Deputies in connection with the accusation filed against Gen. Bernardo Reyes, Governor of Nuevo Leon:

"Secretary of the Chamber of Deputies of the Congress of the Union, Mexico. Section of Archives No. 347.

"The Chamber of Deputies of the Congress of the United States of Mexico, in exercise of the faculty conceded under Article 72, Letter A and Insert V and 105, of the Constitution reformed on the 13th of November, 1874

"DECLARE: That the citizen Governor of the State of Nuevo Leon, Gen. Bernardo Reyes, is not guilty of the official crime of violation of individual guarantees, and attacks against personal suffrage, of which he has been accused by Camillo Arriaga, Antonio Diaz Soto y Gama and associates.

"Mexico, May 29th, 1903."

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