

MAXIMILIAN IN MEXICO.

Dream of Empire That Ended in Death and Insanity.

The announcement made last week of the appointment of an Austrian Minister to Mexico, after an interim of nearly thirty-five years, in which Francis Joseph's Government has been without official representation in the Republic, recalls vividly the many historic events that led to the suspension of diplomatic relations between the two countries.

When Napoleon III conceived the idea of an Empire in the Western Hemisphere, founded on the wreck of a score of attempts at government in Mexico, he sought the assistance of England and Spain to insure the success of his mighty undertaking; but he carefully veiled his intentions under a plea that his expedition against the military position on the Mexican coast was for the purpose of collecting an indemnity due France.

Having completed negotiations with England and Spain, and arranged with those nations for the dispatch of a force to rescue payment of the loan which the Mexican Government had repudiated, the French Emperor felt that his scheme of empire was about to be realized. It was agreed that the French and Spanish squadrons were to meet at Havana and later join the English fleet at Cape St. Antonio. From there a combined fleet was to be made on the coast. England's naval and military strength consisted of one ship on the line and two frigates carrying a force of 700 marines.

KAPOLEON BEGINS THE EXECUTION OF HIS SCHEME.

The Spaniards had 6,000 men under Prim as Admiral and Commander, but Napoleon, with a full knowledge of the real intent of the expedition, despatched to join the allied fleets a force of 2,500 men of all arms, and mostly veterans of the hard-fought battle of Solferino.

Disagreement arose among the commanders of the allies and caused the withdrawal of the English and Spaniards without having accomplished anything toward the collection of the indemnity.

Now freed from the obstacles raised in his path by the other commanders, the French General Lorenceau, after a lapse of three months, landed at Vera Cruz with 15,000 men, and with a prospect of easy victory. But at the old Spanish town of Puebla he suffered an overwhelming defeat at the hands of Zaragoza, who commanded the Mexican forces. After a month's siege, Lorenceau was relieved of the command of the French forces by General Forey, who at once began to put in effect the plans of Napoleon. He assumed the provisional presidency at Vera Cruz and appropriated to himself the civil and military power. An assault on Puebla was repulsed with heavy loss to the Emperor and his army. Progress toward the goal of France's ambition, the City of Mexico, was begun.

Two years to a day after the Emperor's declaration of neutrality, his army, with the Austrian and Belgian contingents, together with a motley host of foreign and native volunteers, entered the ancient city with Forey at their head.

MAXIMILIAN AND HIS BRILLIANT BRIDE.

The Liberal Government had fled, so Forey called together some of the most eminent citizens of the country, who agreed to nominate a body of 215 men to be known as the Assembly of Notables, with whom should rest the duty of deciding on the form of government to be adopted.

This Assembly met, and at the dictation of the French General offered the Imperial crown of Mexico to Ferdinand Maximilian, Archduke of Austria, brother of the present Emperor Francis Joseph.

Maximilian had married Princess Maria Carlotta Amalia, daughter of Leopold I, King of Belgium, and Louise Philippine. At the time of their marriage, Carlotta was a girl of 17, tall, graceful and gentle. She spoke and wrote French, German, English, Spanish and Italian, and with a thorough knowledge of affairs of state combined the highest virtues.

The marriage of these royal personages was as much the result of love as a matter of statecraft. There seemed to be in Europe at that time no man of higher promise and more notable achievements than Maximilian, and certainly there was not among the daughters of royalty one of greater requirements, of wider political information, of loftier ambition or of fairer fate than Carlotta. She was trained in the duties and restraints of court, noted for her almost unbending charity and devoted to her public and private life to the welfare of her people. With all that was required to make her the happiest sovereign in the world, it is still true that, saving Eugene de France, no woman of royal lineage ever had a sadder fate.

TAKING THE CROWN WHICH WAS TO DESTROY HIM.

In September, 1863, a deputation sent by the newly created Assembly of Notables reached Miramar, the happy retreat of Maximilian and Carlotta, to tender the crown which later weighed heavily on their brows.

Maximilian and Carlotta set out for their new Empire in April of 1864, accompanied by a brilliant retinue of French, Austrian and Mexican officers of high rank. The Emperor chose for the voyage to the new world his favorite ship, Novara, of the Austrian navy and embarking at Miramar with a company of twelve steamers, began the fatal journey.

They arrived in Vera Cruz May 20, 1864, and an enthusiastic welcome was given them. The Emperor captivated

the hearts of the Mexicans. It was her twenty-fourth birthday, and, in accordance with her invariable custom, she celebrated the event by deeds of charity. There were salves of artillery, the clangor of bells, the shouts of the people to announce the dawn of an era of peace and security.

The castle of Chapultepec was chosen as the royal residence, and there began the splendor of court life. There, too, the Emperor and Empress undertook to solve the complex political problems that confronted them and there began the shadows of the cyphers that had kept silent vigil since the days of Aztec triumph was written the first chapter of their sad history.

CARLOTTA'S VAIR EFFORT TO SECURE EUROPEAN AID.

Two short years of their reign passed amid disaffection, intrigue and open rebellion, but it was not until January, 1866, when France, under the pressure brought to bear by the United States, finally withdrew her troops from Mexico, and left Maximilian to the mercy of his multiplying enemies.

Carlotta, in her desire to save her husband from the doom that certainly must follow the fall of French protection to himself and his Empire, resolved to visit France, and there seek from Napoleon money and men to maintain the government on whose existence depended their own lives and welfare.

Many vexations and intentional delays were interposed by Napoleon to preclude an audience; but with determination and courage, Carlotta forced a discussion of the terrible situation. She urged the demands of honor and justice; she pleaded, prayed and wept, but Napoleon returned but one answer: France dare not recall or modify the pledge she had given the United States. France refused to send a man or a penny to aid the victim of her own ambition.

Cruel as the terrible decision, Carlotta flew to the happy home of her former years, the palace at Miramar. Here the memories of her deserted husband were again revived, and another effort was to find for him in all Europe a friend in his sore distress. Her father, King Leopold, was dead; Austria looked coldly on the necessities of the Prince who had renounced his right to the succession.

MADNESS OVERTAKES HER ON HER WAY TO THE POPE.

Only one other source of succor remained. She turned to the Pope. Along the road to Rome the people greeted her with salutes of cannon, the ringing of bells, songs and cheers. But with all the good wishes with which she met, her heart was still weighed down by forebodings of her husband's awful fate.

And on this journey to the papal court there appeared the first shadow of that dark cloud which enveloped the brilliant mind of the unhappy Empress.

The special train that was assigned to the Empress and her suite stopped at one of the stations, Carlotta, frightened but companion by saying, quietly, but with emphasis: "I will not go to Rome. They will poison me there. I will go back to Miramar."

In the evening of the fourth day after her arrival at the Papal court she suddenly informed one of her most trusted friends, with a caution to keep it secret that Napoleon had hired three men to poison her, including her physician, to poison her. A moment later she charged the friend herself with being a party to the plot.

In a final audience at the Vatican she entreated protection from the Pope from the enemies whom she imagined were trying to take her life. The delusion possessed her mind completely, and each day increased its intensity, until finally it culminated in her refusal to take any food or drink unless brought by herself or a trusted attendant.

The most devoted medical treatment, the most devoted service, failed in their merciful purpose. Her mind was wrecked by sorrow and fear. In the last days of October the Empress was taken to Miramar, and later to the home and scenes of her youth, in the hope that some change would be wrought in her condition. But the brilliancy of that great mind faded in the shadow of her awful infirmity she still awaits the Emperor's coming.

TIL THE REVOLUTION AND VICTORY FOR DEATH.

All that love, ambition and the imperial qualities of true womanhood could do to save the Emperor and the Empire had been done. Her mad misfortune of her insanity was sent her to spare her the equally terrible realization of her failure.

While Carlotta was going from court to court in her vain endeavor to enlist the sympathies and assistance of Europe to prevent the destruction of the Mexican Empire and the life of its ruler, Maximilian was already confronted by the first of revolution, that is a few months later a reality.

The order of execution by the French forces was the signal for action by the faithful Republicans. Detachments of guerrilla bands were speedily organized, and the command of Escobedo and his Generals, undertook to reconquer the fields they had lost. The decisive battle was fought at San Jacinto, where Miramon, Maximilian's trusted leader, suffered a terrible defeat. At Puebla the Imperial eagle received a heavy blow in the capture of that city by the forces under Diaz, who later compelled the surrender of the capital itself.

Persevered by Marquez, Maximilian received to make the last stand in the

THESE THREE.

While there are other lines of our stock equally as deserving of prominent mention, we wish to call special attention this week to these three:

1 Children's Waists.

We have the "IDEAL" Waist for children in twelve different styles suited to ages from one to fourteen years. Price 25c to 50c each.

2 Muslin Underwear.

Our stock is all new and of superior elegance. In full suits or separate pieces.

3 Embroideries and Fancy Work.

Here we are prepared to show you a beautiful line of the latest things in Embroideries and Laces, such as the All-over Chiffon, and Chiffon Insertings in white and black. Also the Silk Laces in white, black and cream. For Ladies' fancy needle work we have all the materials in different designs with Embroidery Silks to match.

J. F. YEAGER, Ladies' Furnishings a Specialty.



old city of Queretaro, whose Miramon had taken refuge after his defeat at San Jacinto. After a number of lesser engagements along the march, in which Maximilian displayed coolness and bravery, the column reached Queretaro February 23, 1867. The struggle for the mastery for imperial station, for honor, and at last for life, was made in this ancient stronghold, and the last act in the tragedy of French intervention was here enacted.

MAXIMILIAN SHOWS GRANDLY IN TRYING TIMES.

The history of the siege is full of the grandeur and contradictions of human nature; there were the horrors and distress, heroism and cowardice, achievement and sacrifice. There were brilliant feats in warfare, surges and repulse; bravery in its highest form, savagery at its worst; there was loyalty that had no parallel in history, and there was treachery, too, such as no man had ever seen.

In the face of defeat and a miserable doom, Maximilian was the grandest figure in recent history. He gave up his house for use as a hospital; the sick and wounded were his personal care; he ministered to their needs with the tenderness of a father. By day and by night he visited the lines and trenches alone, and rode to the most dangerous points under a hail of shot and shell. He walked among a rain of shot and fire, in vain courting the death that would not come.

But treachery was abroad, and on the 15th of May his purpose was accomplished in the surrender of the garrison of Mexico. Maximilian was soon a prisoner, and the decree of his death followed on the heels of his capture. The Emperor was put on trial on the 8th of June, but his fate had long since been assured. The proceedings were a mockery, and in spite of his eloquent pleas for mercy the tribunal sentenced him to death.

The dream of the empire was past. The protests of nations failed. In the early morning of June 19 the tolling bells announced the execution of the Republican hero. The "Bill of the Bells" was chosen for the place of sacrifice. Maximilian alighted from the carriage which conveyed him to the spot, and walking to one of the three crosses which had been placed to designate the places of the victims of that awful decree, spoke a few words to those assembled, in which he said that he shed his blood for the welfare of Mexico. Sleeping forward he placed in the hands of each of his executioners a gold piece with the request that they "slay well."

BODY TAKEN TO AUSTRIA, BUT EXHIBIT STILL HERE.

An instant later came the ringing order to fire. With a sorrowful cry, "Oh man!" the Emperor fell dead and lay a sacrifice to Napoleon's ambition, greed and ingratitude.

The sad prophecy of Carlotta, made some time before on hearing of her husband's capture, was verified and a new sorrow was added to the heavy load she already bore. She had said in a loud interval: "He is dead. They will kill him. I know the Mexicans."

After the execution of Maximilian and his Generals, Austria endeavored to take his body home for burial. This privilege was denied for several months, but finally the body was taken to Vienna to find there a resting place with the Ashes of the Princess of the house of Austria. The man who had been ridiculed and even despised by the monarchs of Europe a few months before had now at his side the uncovered heads of the earth's mightiest rulers. The rifle shots that rang out that summer morning on the "Bill of the Bells" had been heard around the world.

Maximilian had not won men's hearts by showing how to rule, but he had taught them a glorious way to die. England, France and Austria had each tried to prevent the execution of Maximilian, but in vain. The Republic declared that the future peace of Mexico demanded his death. Queen Victoria appointed to President John

son to intercede; Austria supplicated the victors to be generous. The conquerors were of stone.

That is why Austria has withheld her Minister from Mexico until to-day. Even in the councils of state it may be that such a sight as that of poor Carlotta wretched and alone, wearily awaiting the return of her young soldier, can bring acts of resentment. President Lincoln took a conspicuous part in the rebellion against Maximilian; he reminded too, of the grand death of one of Austria's noblest sons, when he beholds her representatives in the halls from which her uniform has been absent so long.

Men Clearing for Work.

The full meaning of the widespread suffering in Jacksonville was realized to-day when it was announced that a great number of men who had been used to manual labor were clearing for work. Among them were clerks, collectors, book keepers and even professional men, these young physicians especially ordering their condition destitute, as they had lost their libraries, office fixtures and everything in the line. The department of labor has undertaken to give clerical employment to all of these applicants.

What Good Roads Do for a Country.

The average tax value of land in North Carolina is four dollars and ten cents. Mecklenburg county's average tax value of land is eight dollars and seventy cents, or one hundred per cent greater than the average for the State. This enhanced valuation is due to Mecklenburg's good roads; more than in any other one cause.

Should not these facts open the eyes of land owners of the entire State to the advantage of good roads?

Vote Remedy Against a Blood Issue.

Lenoir, May 6.—In the election held here to-day W. C. Newland was elected Mayor with the following committee: M. C. Shell and Dr. W. E. Ivy, for three years; G. L. Barnhardt and G. W. Conley for two years; T. J. Seehorn and E. G. Manly for one year. There was no opposition ticket. The question of issuing \$15,000 bonds for street improvements, electric lights etc. was voted on, failing to carry by a small majority.

Quit Drinking or Drunken.

The Morganton Herald, speaking of Mr. Joe Monday's living depicted from the pulpit for drinking, says: "Joe ought to make an election; between the two and quit preaching to the law and the courts to average out wives and daughters is no man at all and has his own contempt. I think I had better read a psalm or go out and plant some more beans, for my wife says she wants a succession of crops of all these leguminous vegetables. I think that is what she called them."

A Home by Any Other Name.

Though Georgia has the original and only Dink Botta, North Carolina boasts a few curiosities in the way of names. Raleigh, for instance, has an Early Dawn and Newborn is the home of Mr. Sharp Hunt. Richmond county is the habitat of the Hon. Sink Quish, while Prof. Dred Fesscock resides in Greensboro. And there are others just as good whose names do not get up in our memory just now.

One Possibly to Be Observed.

"When shall it be my own?" whispered the uncaptured lover. "Name the day!" "It can't be before next Wednesday" said the beautiful woman falteringly. "I don't get my divorce, you know, until Tuesday."

Stopped into Live Coals.

"When a child I turned my foot frightfully," writes W. E. Kead of Jonesville, Va., "which caused horrible leg sores for 30 years, but Buckton's America ointment cured me after everything else failed." Infallible for Burns, Scalds, Cuts, Sores, Bruises and Erys. Sold by J. E. Curry & Co. Price 25c.

A New Use for Cotton.

First Assistant Postmaster General Johnson is to be credited with a discovery of practical value to the cotton growers in seeking to have America made cotton a real money crop. About 1,000,000 pounds of jute, it is stated, are annually used for the postal service, and the change would call for the use of an equal amount of cotton. As low grade cotton would be employed and the market for such cotton is usually dull, the new demand for it could not fail to affect the price of that grade considerably, to the corresponding benefit of the growers.

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ARP QUOTES A PSALM.

DISCOURAGES ON A SERMON BY A NORTHERN PARAGON.

Express Words of Abuse—Narrow Path, Anguish Began How Some People Feel Toward the South. Bill Ayr to Atlantic Constitution.

"Not not thyself because of evidence. Not not thyself because of him who propeeth in his way and bringeth wretched devices to pass." There is good philosophy and much comfort in that psalm. Its frequent perusal will furnish us against trouble and leave us calm and serene at least for a time. But I don't believe that David had as many things to exasperate him as we do. Now here is a Chicago religious paper sent to me to disturb my tranquility. It contains a sermon recently delivered by the editor to a large congregation of his followers and they said some and some at every congregation that he uttered against our people don't find myself a northern preacher never nor a northern writer, but I don't like that comes from the pulpit, and it grieves me to realize that the more malignant an editor is against the more subscribers his paper gets. Now this Chicago editor says in his sermon:

"I was president when the next lynching took place in the South I would put a card around their necks and hang a hundred of them and I would shoot a hundred. Worthy of casualties are the horrible things carried on in the South. As sure as you live these eight million negroes will be hanged. If it is to be blood for blood, then you to you in the black belt. You southernners with your religion make still less, you lynch the poor negro for the very reason that your fathers committed on their slaves. There is one voice that will speak for all others are silent (Applause.) When the time comes we will do more than speak. God will judge you—you wretched beings who strain at a gnat and swallow a camel. I have been told that I have lost friends at the south. I don't care a fig for them. They are not worthy of my friendship. They are neither Christians nor good citizens. Let the march of eight million Ethiopians, and it will be an awful day when they burst loose in the black belt."

My wife says that I had better take the covers out of the granaries and maybe that will relieve me. I see that in all this religious frenzy, a pair of tin snips are being driven at the fountain in the front yard. They are yellow and black, skin to the canker. A moaning bird is singing in a neighbor's garden. Our flock of pigeons is sailing around in graceful curves. The present is strutting and spreading his magnificent tail and is happy in his vanity. The dog lies lazily on the blue grass and everything is happy that has any except some miserable people who are never happy unless they are abusing something or leading rank with their neighbors.

But about those preachers who are so distressed about the negro. I wish to remark that the same paper that gave Dr. Guzman's sentiments about the negro had in the next column in large headlines a press dispatch from Greenville of an account of Benedit Jones committed by eight negroes upon Mr. McMillan and his wife, shooting him and subjecting her to an outrage worse than death and left them both for dead. I hope the paper has got the negroes and lynched them by this time. Do you reckon I would have refused to help lynch the brutes if I had been there and if that preacher had been there and refused a helping hand he would have said "Now, boys, let's hang 'em up by the legs and give him time to repent—the cowardly dog who would not average a woman's hour." That's my faith and part of my religion, and I've been on that line ever since these outrages began. I rejoice over every lynching of a brute, of the kind. Governor Candler may purge his own record about lynching and denounce that Philadelphia editor who lied on him, but I am not a governor—and am not a lawyer to be shot at and I am free to say that a man who would wait for the slow, uncertain process of the law and the courts to average out wives and daughters is no man at all and has his own contempt. I think I had better read a psalm or go out and plant some more beans, for my wife says she wants a succession of crops of all these leguminous vegetables. I think that is what she called them."

In the last hour of every session the blood is all right. And though a lot about the tables as if they dreamed of heaven.

XX-NOV. 1898 HAS MADE \$200,000.

Head of the Big Oil Syndicate. Atlanta News. Former Governor James S. Hogg has for several days been credited with having made approximately \$2,000,000 in oil and kindred interests at and near Beaumont, says a Dallas special to the Record-Herald. The reports were not accepted at their face value until today, when a letter from Governor Hogg to a personal friend W. A. Shaw, a member of the legislature from Dallas, stated it.

In addition to having procured possession of 500 acres of the richest oil lands in Beaumont, and also having made by various transactions several hundred thousand dollars in ready money, Governor Hogg has acquired 1,000 acres of iron ore land surrounding New Birmingham, and comprising the pick of Cherokee county.

With the land he has secured control of the big laundry, furniture, hardware and everything connected with the industry that makes it ready for immediate operation.

New Birmingham has one of the richest beds of iron ore in the United States. It is located 163 miles north of Beaumont. Gov. Hogg declares in his letter that the operations of his plant and his associates place Texas beyond the control of the oil or iron trusts.

Mr. Hogg heads the big syndicate that controls all the leading concerns and is able to buy the "understanding" in any mine. His present company will run pipe lines via New Birmingham to Dallas and North Texas.

Remember the Sabbath. Daily News. It is reported and confirmed that an ordained minister and farmer near Deep River, Cleveland county, who lives in two miles of a church, was discovered playing on last Sunday morning. When reminded it was Sunday, he said he did not know it was Sunday, "flopped up" his tail and turned the "critter" into the barn yard. Whether he filled his appointment or attended service that day the reporter did not say.

Questions About Staged Act.

Davidson News. It is an odd one these days that we hear say more concerning the 16 to 1 proposition that we fear it is entirely lost in the shuffle.

Rev. Dr. Hainford is sorry he said in the address "I—" It looks like he speaks very properly. He rivals Peter of old. It was a sorry example from a parson.

Heidysville, Durham, Kingston, Lexington, Mount Olive, Henderson and some other towns are soon to vote on the school tax question, while a number of places have already voted favorably on the proposition. There is apparent a general feeling throughout the State of a need for better school facilities.—Gold Leaf.

Donald McKenzie, a prominent citizen of Morganton, committed suicide Saturday afternoon by blowing out his brains with a pistol. Proximal depression is said to be the cause.