

1854, through the good offices of Queen Christina, was sent to the camp of the allies in the Crimea as Spanish military commissioner. Hospitable, courteous, gay and gallant, Prim made many friends among the allied officers and ingratiated himself so thoroughly in the esteem of Omar Pasha that that commander wrote him a most flattering letter on his departure, made him magnificent presents and obtained for him from the Sultan the decoration of Medjidie and a sabre of honor. On his return from the East General Prim published an interesting account of his military experience in the Crimea and elsewhere in Russia and Turkey, and an historical essay on the Turkish empire.

HIS MARRIAGE—MORE HONORS.

In 1856, while on his way from the East, he stopped in Paris, where he met a Mexican lady named Señora Echevarria, whom he married soon after. She brought him a dowry of \$600,000, with expectations of a similar sum from her mother and \$1,000,000 from each of her two uncles. This marriage was the great sensation of the day. It was celebrated under the auspices of Queen Christina, who was present, and acted as "Madrina" to the bride. At this time Prim represented Barcelona in the Cortes, and was in high favor. On the 31st of January, 1856, he was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant General, and in 1858 was raised to the Senate, where he soon after delivered a remarkable speech on the Mexican question during the debate on the address to the Crown.

THE MOROCCO CAMPAIGN.

In 1859 the war with Morocco broke out, and he left Spain in command of the reserve division of the army, consisting of eight battalions. His exploits during the campaign were most brilliant. In the action at Castillejos his gallantry was conspicuous. The regiment of Cordova, pressed by superior forces, having broke and turned to flight, Prim seized its colors and rushed forward, exclaiming, "I take this flag to the Moors!" Animated by his heroism the men rallied, reformed their line, and, with Prim at their head, charged the Moors with such impetuosity that they broke and fled in great disorder. For his heroism in this battle he was rewarded with the title of Marquis de los Castillejos and the rank of Grande of Spain of the First class.

THE MEXICAN EXPEDITION.

The joint intervention in the affairs of Mexico having been determined on by France, England and Spain, General Prim was sent to Mexico in command of the Spanish contingent. Early in 1862 he reached Vera Cruz, but soon after withdrew his forces to Cuba and renounced the expedition. Before returning to Spain he paid a visit to the United States and spent a couple of days with General McClellan at the headquarters of the Army of the Potomac, where he witnessed a grand review of the Union forces. On his return to Spain his course regarding Mexico was severely censured by some of his countrymen, but it received the fullest sanction of the Cortes.

THE INSURRECTION OF 1866 AND 1867.

For alleged conspiracy against Señor Mar General Prim was banished to Oviedo, together with General Contreras, the cavalry leader and others implicated with him. In 1864 Narvaez recalled him, but he had no sooner arrived in Madrid than he is said to have joined O'Donnell in the effort made by the latter to overthrow his rival. O'Donnell succeeded, but gave the cold shoulder to Prim, who leagued himself with Espartero, and threw himself, with all his influence, in the interests of the progresistas. In January, 1866, he determined to strike, and accordingly he put himself at the head of the insurrection of that year. The army, however, remained faithful to the government, and the movement was speedily suppressed. Nothing daunted he renewed the attempt in 1867 and was again unsuccessful.

THE REVOLUTION OF 1868.

Prim having succeeded in making good his escape to France immediately set about preparing for a third attempt. It is said, but upon what authority we know not, that Napoleon was privy to his schemes. But be that as it may, the insurrection of 1868 was crowned with complete success, and until his death Prim was the leading spirit in the provisional government.

CONCLUSION.

In spite of his slippery political principles Prim was always popular. He possessed all the virtues of the Spaniard, and, we must add, all the vices. His greatest political strength lay in Catalonia, the Catalans regarding him as their particular leader. They were ever ready to follow Prim wherever he led them, quite indifferent to the merits of the cause he had espoused.

SKETCH OF GENERAL PRIM.

Contrary to the expectations which the first despatches formed General Prim has succumbed to the wounds inflicted by the hands of assassins, and has gone down to his grave another victim to Spanish violence and anarchy. Whatever faults he may have had he certainly deserved a better fate than that which has befallen him, for he was undoubtedly one of the most gallant men in Spain.

HIS EARLY CAREER.

Don Juan Prim, Viscount del Bruschi, Count de Reus, Marques de Las Castillejos and Grande of Spain of the First Class, was born in Reus, a town in Catalonia, near Tarragona, on the 6th of December, 1814. His father was a colonel of Spanish infantry, a man of limited means, being compelled to depend upon this scanty fare for his support. Nevertheless, his military position enabled his son to obtain admission as a cadet in a military school. Prim had not been in the army many months before the civil war of 1833, following the death of King Ferdinand, broke out and gave him a chance to distinguish himself. He espoused the cause of the Queen Mother against Don Carlos, and as lieutenant of the Catalan Free Corps behaved with so much gallantry on the battle field that he soon obtained the rank of captain and in 1837 was promoted to a colonelcy and decorated with several military orders.

IN POLITICS.

After the close of the civil war Prim entered upon his political career. His early education had been quite deficient, but he made up for the deficiency by a course of private studies and by his participation in the political movements of the day. Having by this time achieved a favorable reputation he had become popular with the people, who elected him as Deputy to several successive Parliaments, in which his eloquence soon made him influential. But from the start it was evident that political consistency could not be expected from him. After the flight of the Queen Mother he allied himself to the progresistas, and became devoted to the cause of Espartero. By his tact in keeping on the winning side he was continually in office, and his services to the country were such that by the time Espartero had been driven out of Spain, Prim had become a major general and been created Viscount del Bruschi. In 1842 he was accused of complicity in the insurrection of Saragossa, and was compelled to seek refuge in France, where he renewed his alliance with the Queen Mother and entered into conspiracies for her restoration.

PARTICIPATION IN INSURRECTIONS.

Elected in 1843 Deputy to the Cortes for the city of Barcelona, he returned to Spain and entered into the coalition between the Christinas and the progresistas against Espartero, his late chief. As the man of action it was not long before Prim proceeded to coercive measures. In May of the same year he headed an insurrection which began in his native city of Reus. Zurbano, however, one of Espartero's subordinate officers, speedily drove him from the place. He fled to Barcelona, where he remained until Espartero was overthrown, when he returned to Madrid. The Queen Mother, Maria Christina, now resumed power, and she at once made Prim a full general and gave him the title of Count de Reus. He was also appointed Governor of Madrid, a position he is said to have held for a short time with signal success.

IN DISGRACE.

The insurrection which had broken out in Barcelona still continuing, Prim undertook to suppress it. But he had political reasons for the continuance of the revolt and he used the forces at his disposal in so glaringly incompetent a manner that a year passed and Catalonia was not pacified. For this he was recalled in disgrace by the Queen, who ordered him to be tried for high treason. It was about this time (1844) that the attempt was made to assassinate Narvaez, then at the head of the government, as he was driving to the opera one evening. The assassins fired into his carriage in the Calle de Ballesta. Narvaez and Bernandez de Castro, who sat in the front seat, escaped; but Rasetti, the Prime Minister's aid-de-camp, was shot dead. Prim was charged with complicity in the attempt and was tried for murder, as well as high treason. He was, however, clearly innocent of any knowledge of the assassination plot and was acquitted of the charge, but was sentenced to several months' imprisonment for treason.

IN THE WEST INDIES.

On regaining his freedom he again sought office. Narvaez had by this time begun to fear Prim, and he decided to get him out of Spain. He was accordingly appointed Captain General of Porto Rico and despatched to the island before the close of 1844. While here a negro insurrection broke out on the island of Santa Cruz. The Danish military force, small in number, would have been soon driven from the island had not Prim come to the rescue. On his own responsibility he transported the greater part of his troops to Santa Cruz, and after a brief, but vigorous campaign, completely crushed the insurgents. For this service the grateful King of Denmark rewarded him with the order of the Dannebrog. The Spanish government, however, was not disposed to thank him. He was blamed for the loss of the Spanish garrisons from Porto Rico and imperiling one of the most valuable possessions of the Spanish crown. The government accordingly recalled him to Spain and tried him for dereliction of duty. The slight punishment which followed did not affect his future fortunes. It was a characteristic of Prim that he always remained hopeful. The condition of Spain was deplorable. Cabinet after cabinet followed each other with such rapidity that on the 15th of January 1851 was called the Lightning Ministry; but Prim always succeeded in making himself serviceable to each. Finally he became involved in a conspiracy against Bravo Murillo, who banished him, together with General Ortega.

HIS EXPERIENCE IN THE EAST.

During the past fifty years every Spanish statesman of any eminence has spent part of his life in exile. Prim's banishment was not unexpected; it did not injure him. After a short absence he returned to Spain more influential than ever, and in