

END OF THE DIAZ REGIME.

Deputies Unanimously Accept Resignations—Wild Scenes in Streets.

MEXICO CITY, May 25.—President Porfirio Diaz, in a letter read by the President of the Chamber of Deputies this afternoon, resigned the Presidency of the Republic of Mexico, and at 4:54 o'clock the acceptance of the resignation by the Deputies was announced. Vice President Ramon Corral's resignation was also accepted and Minister of Foreign Affairs Francisco de la Barra was chosen Provisional President to serve until a general election can be held.

Everyone had expected an uproar when the announcements should be made, but within the chamber the words announcing the event were followed with silence. The Deputies seemed awed by what had taken place.

In the streets, black with people, the news that Diaz was no longer the President was the signal for wild shouting and manifestations.

On the motion to accept the President's resignation, 167 Deputies voted aye, while no expression was made by Benito Juarez, a descendant of President Juarez, and Concepcion Del Valle. As their names were called, all other legislators arose and bowed their affirmation. In similar fashion the resignation of Vice President Corral, now in France, was unanimously accepted, and similarly Señor de la Barra was chosen.

Of scarcely less popular interest than the resignation was the assumption of military control of the Federal district by Alfredo Robles Dominguez, Madero's personal representative, insuring the handling of popular demonstrations by a leader of the new régime. Personally, Dominguez commands only a small body of local rebels, but the Federal Garrison is under orders to make no move whatsoever without his approval. He said he could bring 5,000 organized rebel troops within the city in three hours. Horses are aboard trains furnished by the Government at Cuernavaca, Pachuca, and Tlalneantla. Dominguez to-night, however, said that the troops would remain at their present stations until they should be needed to control the situation.

Diaz Hopes for Better Judgment.

President Diaz's letter of resignation reads:

Sir: The Mexican people, who generously covered me with honors, who proclaimed me as their leader during the international war, who patriotically assisted me in all works undertaken to develop the industry and the commerce of the republic, establish its credit, gain for it the respect of the world and obtain for it an honorable position in the concert of nations; that same people, Sir, has revolted in armed military bands, stating that my presence in the exercise of the supreme executive power is the cause of this insurrection.

I do not know of any fact imputable to me which could have caused this social phenomenon, but permitting, though not admitting, that I may be unwittingly culpable, such a possibility makes me the least able to reason out and decide my own culpability. Therefore, respecting as I have always respected the will of the people, and in accordance with Article 82 of the Federal Constitution, I come before the supreme representatives of the nation in order to resign unreservedly the of-

office of Constitutional President of the Republic, with which the national vote honored me, which I do with all the more reason since in order to continue in office it would be necessary to shed Mexican blood, endangering the credit of the country, dissipating its wealth, exhausting its resources, and exposing its policy to international complications.

I hope, gentlemen, that when the passions which are inherent to all revolutions have been calmed a more conscientious and justified study will bring out in the national mind a correct acknowledgment, which will allow me to die, carrying engraved in my soul a just impression of the estimation of my life, which throughout I have devoted and will devote to my countrymen.

With all respect,
PORFIRIO DIAZ.

Corral Still Loyal to Diaz.

Vice President Corral's letter of resignation reads:

Sir: On the two occasions that the national conventions advanced my candidacy as Vice President for the republic to figure in the elections with Gen. Diaz as President, I stated that I was prepared to occupy any office in which compatriots considered that I could be of use, and that if the public vote conferred upon me a post so far above my merits, then my intention would be to second in all respects Gen. Diaz's policy in order to cooperate with him as far as it lay in my power toward the aggrandizement of the nation, which had developed so notably under his administration.

Those who concern themselves with public affairs and have observed their progress during the last few years will be able to say whether I have complied with my intention.

For my part I can say that I have never endeavored to bring about the least obstacle either in the President's policy or his manner of carrying it out, even at the cost of sacrificing my convictions, both because this was the basis of my programme and because this corresponded to my position and to my loyalty, as well as that I did not seek any prestige in the office of Vice President, so useful in the United States and so discredited in Latin countries.

In the events which have shaken the country during these latter months, the President has been brought to feel that it is patriotic to resign from the high office which the almost unanimous vote of Mexicans conferred on him in the last election, and that it is advisable at the same time in the interests of the country that the Vice President do likewise, so that new men and new energies should continue forwarding the prosperity of the nation; and, following my programme of seconding Gen. Diaz's policy, I join my resignation with his and in the present note I retire from the office of Vice President of the republic, begging the Chamber to accept the same at the same time as that of the President's.

I beg of you, gentlemen, to inform yourselves of the above, which I submit with the protestations of my highest consideration.

Liberty and the Constitution.
RAMON CORRAL.

Paris, May 4, 1911.
To the Secretary of the Chamber of Deputies, Mexico.

The one dramatic speech of the day was made by Deputy José Aspe. In introducing the President's letter of resignation he made a brilliant oratorical effort. His voice was repeatedly drowned by applause, and the floor fairly shook with the demonstration that followed his peroration.

"President Porfirio Diaz is dead! Long live Citizen Porfirio Diaz!"

The speaker admitted that Gen. Diaz had been called to account for his errors by a people who had progressed faster than the author of their progress had realized, but he declared the good that Gen. Diaz had done his country would live forever in history and outweigh his mistakes.

A long address on the constitutional points involved in the change of government was delivered by Deputy Melgarejo.

Maderist Parades After Change.

Every entrance to the chamber and all street approaches were guarded by heavily armed, mounted police. Only those who came hours ahead of time got within this cordon. They were quiet and well behaved.

Outside the line of police the throng cheered itself hoarse, but gave the police no trouble. Street cars running near the chamber were compelled to stop by the density of the crowd, and car roofs swarmed with eager spectators. Every car running over these routes was commandeered by men and boys many blocks before the centre of interest was reached, and finally the lines were blocked.

To the city generally the acceptance of the resignation of the President was announced by the clang of the bells of the cathedral and two discharges of cannon. For many blocks on either side of the chamber the streets were black with people. Great crowds were scattered over the Zocalo or Plaza of the Constitution when the triumph of the revolution was thus announced. With one accord they rushed toward the chamber, but their progress was halted by the multitude ahead of them.

As the crowds melted away after the session by hundreds and by thousands they fell into irregular marching clubs. The marchers carried flags and banners of the National green, white, and red; lithographs of Madero, laurel wreaths, brooms, apparently symbolic of the clean sweep for the rebellion, while hundreds of them shouldered staves and poles like soldiers with rifles.

All business was suspended. Everywhere windows were shuttered. On every balcony in the city women and children and those too infirm to be in the street came out to see the celebration. Many of them tossed flowers and confetti on the marching thousands.

A heavy guard of mounted police was maintained in front of the National palace, near which seven persons were killed and thirty-six wounded last night when the mob was fired on. The guard moved in a long oval. An incident illustrating the temper of the people and the effect of their success against the Government occurred when one of the marching clubs came swinging down the Zocalo. The last two guards on horses were swinging about on their oval route when the marchers reached them. It was a case of one get out of the way of the other. The marchers wheeled as if to ride into the crowd in the old-fashioned way, then gave way, spurring back into line as best they could.

Maderist Leader Addresses Crowds.

It was at a conference between Alfredo Robles Dominguez, the personal representative of Francisco I. Madero, and President de la Barra, that the agreement to place the Maderist troops at the disposition of the Government, in the name of tranquillity was reached. It was agreed that only in case the Federal troops proved unable to control the situation should the former rebel soldiers be brought into the city.

Dominguez, who is now the ranking Maderist in the capital, went into the streets this afternoon, accompanied by his staff. All wore on their hats the tri-color used by the rebels in the field. Dominguez was on a mission of peace, following the issuance by him of a manifesto in which he had appealed to the people to refrain from disorder and to disperse. Riding from one group of manifestants to another, he exhorted them to remember the dignity of their cause and not to disgrace themselves and their leader by rioting.

The crowds did not disperse, but there was a marked improvement in their behavior. In this work Dominguez had the assistance of Lieutenants whom he had sent on similar errands, and of members of the White Cross, who from an automobile addressed the enthusiastic men and boys. Loudly the paraders cheered Dominguez and his aides, and solemnly they assured them that they would not indulge in acts of violence, but to promise to go home without indulging in the novelty of free speech was too much.

In their wildest moments the members of the various crowds never failed to exhibit their love for the national flag. Repeatedly during the hours the crowd waited in front of the chamber for the news of Diaz's resignation the colors were waved by them, and every appearance of the flag was the signal for applause and lifted hats.

It is the first time in thirty years that the people of Mexico have had the opportunity to shout with impunity the name of their choice for the Presidency. Unused as they are to freedom from restraint, the older men of the country regard it as remarkable that the thousands who have been parading the streets almost constantly for more than twenty-four hours, than the few outbreaks reported. Few acts of ruffianism were com-

mitted to-day, and yet the police endured more than they have been asked to suffer from citizens in a generation. Their orders were not to fire except under desperate circumstances.

Not even when a young officer was pulled from his horse and struck in the face by an angry marcher did the officer in command of the troops order his men to shoot. The assailant of the officer was arrested.

The shooting of a parade leader this forenoon in front of the Foreign Office by an officer of police and his subsequent command to his men to fire, followed an insulting reply made by the crowd. The officer had precedent for his action, but precedents of that class were not followed generally to-day. The people own the city to-night and the soldiery is a tenant.

De la Barra Gives a Pledge.

Provisional President-elect de la Barra acknowledged his elevation to that office in an open letter to the Mexican people to-night. He said:

Though there has not yet been approved by the respective State Legislatures the constitutional reform relating to no re-election, I consider it my duty to declare as a guarantee of my purpose that, under no circumstances, will I accept the candidacy for the Presidency or the Vice Presidency in the approaching election. The happiest day of my public career will be that on which, in the shortest time allowed by the electoral law and the situation prevailing in the country, I can transfer the office I have to-day received to the citizens the republic elects.

The Mexican Government, respectful for the rights of the other nations, and zealously defending her own, will spare no effort by means of its open and fair policy, as it has done in the past, in order that these relations may become more friendly every day with mutual advantages, and in accordance with the principles of international law.

The entire Cabinet resigned this afternoon, a mere corollary to the retirement of Gen. Diaz, and its withdrawal excited little interest.

DE LA BARRA WIDELY KNOWN.

Has Served His Country in Many Important Diplomatic Posts.

The rise of Francisco Leon de la Barra, provisional President of Mexico, has filled many diplomatic posts, but there is probably no man in Mexico to-day with a more thorough knowledge of its internal affairs. As Ambassador to Washington he made many friends in this country.

Señor de la Barra was born June 16, 1863. He received his academic and special education at the College of the City of Mexico. Upon the completion of his studies he took up law and was admitted to the bar. He made a specialty of international law, and entered the Foreign Affairs Office. His first important work came when he was appointed to negotiate various treaties with foreign powers. Among those arranged by him was one of commerce and navigation with Holland and extradition with Italy.

He gained a seat in the Federal Congress in 1891, and remained there until 1896. He was sent by his Government as delegate of the Academy of Legislation and Jurisprudence to the Ibero-American Congress in Madrid in 1892. As President of the International Law Committee of the Pan-American Congress, which met in Mexico City in 1901, he took a prominent part in its doings and was leading advocate of the measure for the compulsory adjustment of pecuniary claims.

The Mexican Government sent him to the Pan-American Congress held in Rio Janeiro in 1906. There he met the delegates of the United States, including Elihu Root, then Secretary of State, and other men who have taken their part in the direction of affairs in this country. A year later he was sent to the Peace Conference at The Hague.

It was perhaps as envoy to all the republics on the Atlantic Coast of South America that he best grasped the Latin-American situation. He lived some time in the various capitals of the east coast, particularly Rio Janeiro and Buenos Aires. His next assignment was as representative of his country to Belgium and The Netherlands. He came to Washington in 1909 as Mexican Ambassador. He remained there until the latter part of March, when he was called home to become Minister of Foreign Affairs in President Diaz's cabinet.

He returned to the troubled capital of his country, declaring his faith in the loyalty and common sense of his countrymen as a whole, and confident that peace would soon be restored. Señor de la Barra's ability as an international lawyer is recognized, not only by his own Government but by other Governments. He is a man of pleasing address and cordiality of manner, speaking English and French as fluently as he does his own language.