

ments were made by the Portuguese, and though, for about 70 years at the close of the sixteenth century and the beginning of the seventeenth, Brazil was ruled by Spain, yet it has always been regarded as a Portuguese possession, and the dominant influences in its civilization have been wielded by Portugal. It is quite true that France and Holland as well as Spain have at different times attempted to gain control of the country, but Portugal has held her ground against them all. Not only so, but the history of Brazil has been distinguished by the fact that, during the present century, the seat of the Portuguese Monarchy was transferred from the mother country to her shores, so that Brazil by that transference was raised at a single step from a position of colonial inferiority to one of national independence. The event happened in this wise. Near the beginning of the century, Napoleon resolved on the invasion and conquest of Portugal, and so the Prince Regent of that country, the grandfather of the Emperor Dom Pedro II., who a few weeks ago lost the sovereignty of Brazil, having no means of resisting the invaders, decided to take refuge in his great colony in South America. The presence of the Supreme Authority in Brazil soon changed the form of its government, and in a very short time it rose to the dignity of a kingdom, and acquired the same rank as the mother country in the title of its sovereign; while in fact it occupied the chief place as the actual seat of government. The revolution in Portugal in 1820, took the king back to that country, but he left his son Dom Pedro the father of the late Emperor in Brazil, who under the influence of some of the leading men of that country, was almost immediately induced to place himself at the head of a movement for the separation of Brazil from Portugal; a movement which issued successfully and led to his being proclaimed constitutional Emperor in 1822. With varying fortune he governed the country for nine years. In 1831 he abdicated in favour of his son, Dom Pedro II., at that time five years of age. After a regency of nine years, he in turn was made Emperor, at the age of fourteen, and has thus wielded supreme power in Brazil for the long period of fifty-eight years.

The exiled emperor is a man who personally has been very highly respected, both by his own subjects and by others. His