

were considered as very excusable and natural, and were not punished with too much severity by the generals, in order not to create a precedent which might perhaps tell against themselves. Escobedo himself had once been a prisoner of Mejia, and condemned to be shot by a court martial; but Mejia had not only assisted him in his escape, but even furnished him with money for it. What Escobedo expected his own friends to do for him, he could not punish too severely in friends of the Emperor, and he was satisfied with making such attempts impossible.

When I arrived at San Luis Potosi, my guard left me. Alighting at an hotel, I now sent for Mr. Bahnsen, who came and kindly invited me to his house. I wished to see the President the same evening, but was told to come the next morning. He was, however, too busy to receive me, and sent Mr. Iglesia, to whom I related everything which caused me to be exiled to San Luis. Mr. Iglesia said he knew very well that they had many rascals at Queretaro, who might be bought by money. He agreed that, if I had had gold ready, my plan would have succeeded.

When, in the course of the conversation, I asked him to tell me frankly whether, in his inmost heart, he would not have been glad if the Emperor had escaped, he smilingly answered, 'Yes, I should.'

I spoke to him of my anxiety with regard to my