

country, which he believed to be indebted to him, of ingratitude, for not preferring his interests to her own happiness. Notwithstanding his many faults, posterity will give him due credit for his meritorious actions. This, however, does not satisfy the South Americans. Their taste and customs lead them to desire present gratification rather than posthumous fame. It is remarkable, that not one of the men that the revolutions in South America have brought forth, appears to have been influenced by the feeling that he was serving his country.

La Mar was, during the early part of the war of the revolution, in the Spanish service; but he afterwards joined the popular side. He served with great credit to himself until the close of it, and contributed much to the success of the last and decisive battle of Ayacucho. After this he retired to Guayaquil, where he had married a lady of good family, and remained quietly in the enjoyment of domestic comfort, until he was called to the presidency of Peru. He was a man of respectable talents, pure and unsuspected integrity, and universally esteemed in private life. He died in Central America, whither he had been banished by Gamarra, leaving a reputation much fairer than that of any of his associates.

Gamarra also had served for several years in the Spanish army, before the revolution broke out. He early joined the patriot side. As a subaltern, he acquired the reputation of being an active and zealous officer; but on his promotion to higher grades, he is said to have displayed, in the battles and skirmishes in which he was engaged, but little military skill, and his courage was more than once questioned. At the close of the war, he was raised to the rank of general of division; and his first act, as has been seen, was to desert La Mar at Portete, which manifested both his treachery and cowardice. His success has been ascribed to his skill in intrigue, and to his making use of the patronage of his station to effect his purposes. He trampled upon the rights of those over whom he ruled, while at the same time he was making the strongest professions in favour of democratic principles, and the rights of the people. Under the pretext of restoring to his country its violated constitution, he has twice overthrown the established authorities, and placed himself in power at the point of the bayonet. Lavish of the public treasure, and equally careless in the economy of his private affairs, he lived and died in poverty. False in his friendships, and unforgiving in his enmities, he was especially to be feared by those with whom he became apparently reconciled after a quarrel. He has left but few admirers, although through his management he contrived to hold the reins of