

government longer than any one who has yet occupied the presidential chair.

Lafuente was a cadet in the Spanish service, but joined the patriot cause. He did not gain much reputation in the war of the revolution, and his first essay as a general officer was a disobedience of orders in landing at Callao, while on his way to join La Mar, at the same time uniting in intrigues with Gamarra, whom he succeeded in getting nominated as President, and himself as Vice-President. These two chiefs appear to have understood each other, and, to avoid collision in the division of the spoils, agreed that each should pursue his leading passion. Gamarra accordingly conferred honours and rewards, whilst Lafuente indulged his mercenary propensity in the accumulation of wealth. The latter has grown rich, by robbing the people and by farming out the resources of the state to his agents and friends. Although certainly not the only chief magistrate who has plundered the state, he is, perhaps, the only one in Peru who has hoarded his ill-gotten wealth, and obtained affluence whilst his country was impoverished. He is still living, and was acting as chief during our visit to Lima.

Orbejoso served in the patriot army during the revolution, and at the close of the war retired to his estate near Truxillo, with but little reputation. There he remained until elected to the presidency, in 1831. Without talents as a statesman or courage as a soldier, he acquired more popularity than any other of his contemporaries in Peru. He undoubtedly sold his country to Santa Cruz, receiving as the price of it the appointment of President of North Peru, or rather that of one of Santa Cruz's lieutenants. At the moment of a threatened invasion from Chili, he renounced the Confederation, in order to acquire independent command, and regained much of his lost popularity by a show of patriotism and gallantry in opposing the invading force. His imbecility and want of knowledge, together with the conduct of General Nieto, lost him the battle under the walls of Lima, as well as the possession of the city, and all his troops. Soon afterwards, he was found in retirement at Guayaquil, where he has been constantly occupied in forming plans for his reinstatement to power.

Salaverry served as a cadet in the last year of the revolution, and was esteemed an enterprising and gallant officer. He was, however, of a reckless disposition, and it is related that he threatened to shoot his mother, who had opposed one of his youthful freaks. Others, however, bear testimony to his good conduct in all his domestic relations, and to his kindness and generosity. When he usurped the supreme