

MEXICO IN REVOLUTION

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Mexico in revolution by V. Blasco Ibáñez

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V. BLASCO IBÁÑEZ

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AUTHOR'S NOTE

The various articles in this volume were written, on my return from Mexico, for the *New York Times*, the *Chicago Tribune* and other important newspapers in the United States.

When I began my articles, the revolution which finally overthrew Carranza had not yet triumphed and "the old man" was still alive. Events moved rapidly while the articles were coming out. Carranza was assassinated and Obregon, with the militarist party, came into power.

Works of the moment, these articles record my various impressions of the days during which they were written. They do not, in consequence, show the unity and homogeneity of a book written after the fact on events already complete in themselves and easily appreciable to the person observing them in perspective and as a whole.

I might, of course, have remodeled these articles and reduced them to chapter form. I

might have suppressed some paragraphs to avoid repetitions and added others to fill in the completed picture. I finally decided to leave them exactly as they appeared in the press, with all their spontaneity as works of the moment.

They do not contain all that I have to say on the Mexico of the present. They are simple impressions, hastily and incompletely jotted down as circumstances warranted or required. I regard them as the first shots on the skirmish line, before my real battle, with all my heavy guns in action, begins.

The final results of my observation and study on contemporary Mexico I shall give, with greater amplitude and more attentive art, in my forthcoming novel called "The Eagle and the Snake."

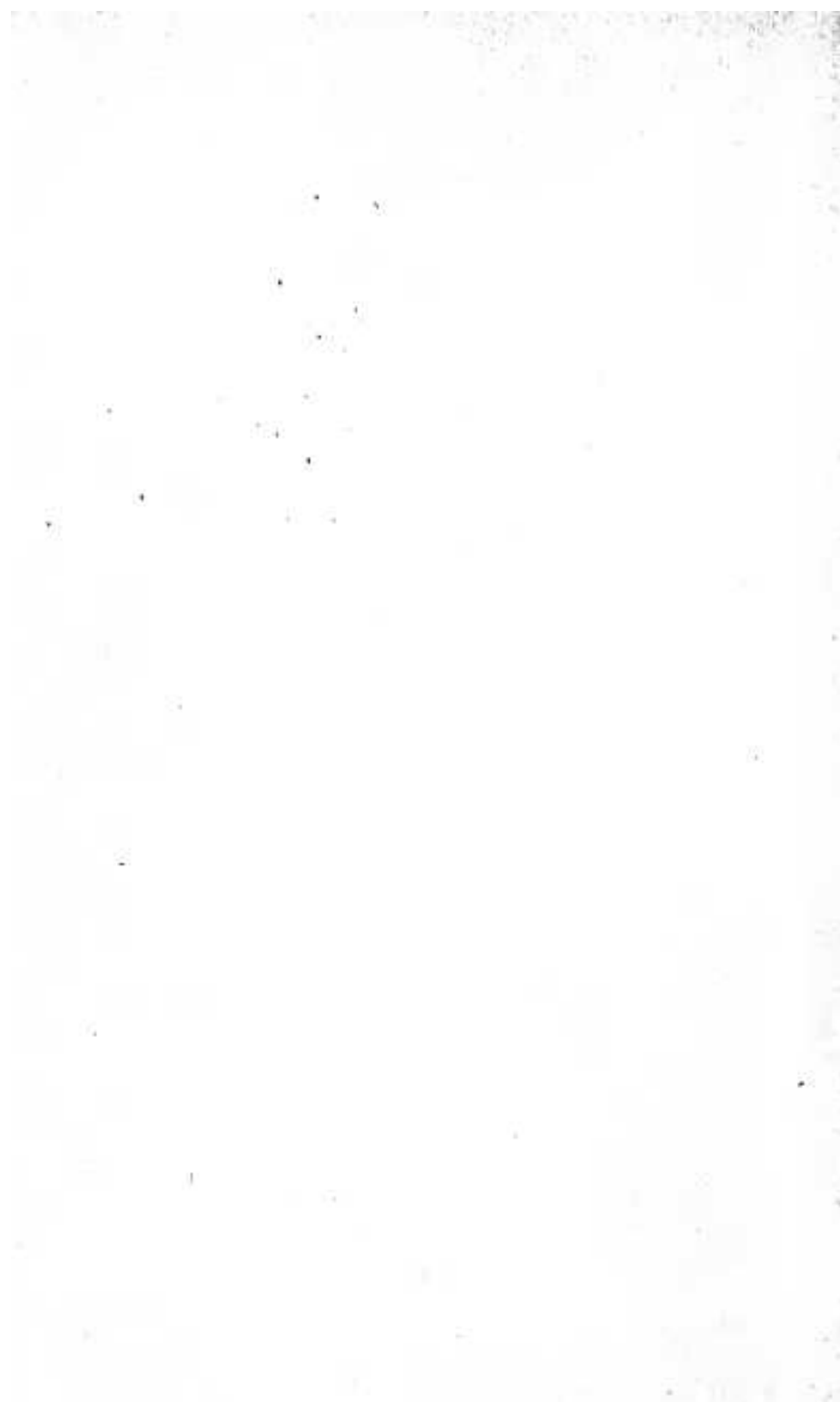
VICENTE BLASCO IBAÑEZ.

New York, June 20, 1920.

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MEXICO IN REVOLUTION



MEXICO IN REVOLUTION

I. THE CAUSE OF THE REVOLUTION

I AM just back from Mexico, where I spent a month and a half. In this brief period of time I made the acquaintance of a Government that looked strong and seemed destined to reach the end of its constitutional days peacefully; I witnessed the outbreak of a revolution that in its early stages led a languid life; I saw the decisive triumph of this revolution, brought about by the unexpected assistance of political elements that had seemed out of sympathy with it; and I observed, finally, the flight of President Carranza, the present uncertainty concerning his fate, and the still greater uncertainty regarding the probable future of the new Government in process of formation.

After all, there is nothing extraordinary in this vertiginous movement of events. Of all things Mexican, revolutions move with the greatest velocity.