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The Standard.

"THE BEST SELLING, ALL VARI NON SELLING DICTIONARY."  
CINCINNATI.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1865.

THE WAR IN THE NORTH.

OUR EQUINA CORRESPONDENT.

During the week six steamers have passed upwards with troops. The Cisne transport, that went ashore near this, has got afloat and proceeded on her voyage. Those that were aground at La Paz were by the last accounts, with one exception, swinging from their moorings. There was every probability the steamer still aground would soon float, when all would move north. Every southerly wind brings scores of deeply-laden sailing vessels, principally under the Italian flag; but a few still persist to wear the Argentine colors. The crews of all are, to a man, Genoese or Neapolitans. In many instances those who navigate them are the owners, the captain as well as the cook having an interest in the vessel. They are not only the common carriers of all this province, both of imports and exports, but they are also the proprietors of most of the merchandize they transport: not a title of them can read or write. They are hardened, astute smugglers. Here they never engage in manufacturing or agricultural pursuits or cattle-farming. Wherever they go, an ostentatious display of their colors is made. Here may be seen, a thousand miles from the sea coast, river craft of scarce 20 tons burthen, wearing a foreign flag, claiming all the immunities annexed to it as if they were as many homeward bound Indians, and boasting that any insult to it will be a 'casus belli.' Query? Would coals or anything else be tolerated to be transported in this manner upon the Thames, or flour or pine boards upon the Hudson? We presume not. Between the Italians and natives strong antagonistic feelings prevail, which are manifested upon the least provocation. The Italian, like the Jew in Turkey, gives little heed to anything else than to strive to get on as smoothly as possible with those he is brought in contact with, making the most he can out of them, in the meantime not being overnice in the choice of his expedients to obtain the desired object.

Extra exertions are being made to put the army in readiness to cross the Paraná, which, it is supposed, will be done in all the coming month notwithstanding the rumors of peace in circulation to the contrary. It is not likely that the allies, possessed as they are of the means to act upon the offensive, when they are in a position to dictate their own terms, would at this late hour mince the matter in a drawn-game. The war was one of Lopez's own choosing, and, if we mistake not, he committed a fatal error when he made the choice. Now nothing less than unconditional submission on the part of Paraguay is expected or will be accepted by the allies. The self-installed arbiter of the just equilibrium of States, may deem himself a fortunate man if he escapes with life and limb. His dynasty scattered, his Republic devastated and hacked to pieces like another Poland and divided among those to whom he had already so ably explained international law and his peculiar method of applying it. As yet the Correntinos have been the greatest losers in blood and treasure, still if peace could be obtained upon any terms many would cheerfully hail it. The women in particular are very clamorous for their husbands or sons, that have been enrolled to be at home attending to their domestic affairs.

There is now a force of nearly fifty thousand men, to maintain whose subsistence is to be drawn from this Province, the best half of which is already a "barren waste" made so by the in-

roads of the Paraguayan. As the herds are being driven north for the support of the army the natives (a people who do not often think of tomorrow) ask each other, what shall we eat when the cows are finished, (it is necessary to observe that till now a just price is paid for the cattle)? Nor is this all that afflicts us, among the calamities public and private contained in war. Gentlemen you know the allied army is recruited, like that of other nations, from vagabonds, idlers, and bad subjects, more particularly malefactors, a sprinkling of whom were enlisted in Germany, France, and Italy. We leave you to judge of the demoralizing effects resulting from the permanency for any length of time of such masses distributed throughout an unsophisticated community. In our staid little village, a year since and it was a novelty to hear that a man had drawn his knife with a bad intent. During the present month we have had two wilful, premeditated murders both perpetrated in cold blood upon defenceless persons, two houses broken into and robbed, to say nothing of any number of stolen cows or horses, or a list of minor offences. In every case the only punishment for such crimes was to send the criminals to the army, all of whom were back fresh for the commission of new wickedness before the escort returned that conducted them there. Our village curate deploras the growing depravity of the times: occasionally O tempora! O mores! comes "from his inmost breast," he predicts (although in the decline of life) it will be his fate to live to see his parish transformed into a pandemonium.

The allied fleet is at anchor at the Capital. The Brazilian officers pass the time in flirting with the Correntinas, giving them music, three formal serenades each week. Since their arrival the situation of the young ladies [many of whom are well behaved beauties] is understood to be attended with considerable difficulties, which their vigilant mamas take due note of. Strict orders [rather superfluous we should suppose] are imparted to the officers as they leave their ships to remember the Paraguayan are six leagues distant; still certain gents with a gay ornament appended to their shoulders have the courage to be seen at quite a distance from the shore in the suburbs poaching with the 'canalla.' At an early hour all the lyrists go on board: like the sailors of all countries, they freely spend their money. They are upright in their dealings. The reciprocal abhorrence, with which Spaniard and Portuguese scowl at each other in the Peninsula, faint traces of it are still possessed by their respective descendants here, as the names of Ituzaingo, Sarandi, and Rincon de Gallinas are pronounced for a no-unmeaning purpose.

We have observed in the 'Standard' of the 10th "Captain Richardson has obtained from the Santa Fé Government a grant of 400 leagues of land in the Gran Chaco, opposite Goya where he is going to establish a colony of 100 American families to raise wheat, cotton, hogs, &c." Two years of our prime were spent in that locality. As to soil, climate, and every natural advantage a more appropriate spot could not be found for the purpose intended. The land in general consists of extensive prairies, of extraordinary fertility, studded with clumps of Algarroba, Nandubay, Tala, or Palm trees disposed in groves or stripes. It is not swampy, nor liable to inundation, it is in fact a dry undulating, champaign country. The climate is mild except in midsummer, when hot weather prevails; and provided the settlers take care of themselves no place can be more healthy. In the winter snow never falls or does water ever freeze. Though in the centre of the Continent, the river by which it is bounded gives it a ready access to the sea-coast while it possesses all the advantages of an insular situation. It also possesses other advantages that few places can boast of. There the plants and fruits common to the Temperate Zone may be grown in the same field by the side of cotton, sugar-cane, tobacco, tapioca, indigo, or other productions of the Torrid Zone. But with all this in its favor it must kept in mind it is peopled with untamed equestrian Indians, Abipones,

whom the Jesuits (who were masters) never could tame. It is within our memory when a numerous horde of them passed the Paraná by swimming, landing a little below Goya, massacring indiscriminately every one they found: a force was sent in pursuit, whom the Indians routed, putting to death two hundred of the Correntino soldiers, when the barbarians returned with droves of horses to their haunts in the Gran Chaco. Subsequently another raid was made upon a smaller scale yet with the same success.

SINBAD.

EDITOR'S TABLE.

The Government gave permission to inter the remains of Canon Fuentes at the church door of San Miguel. The funeral took place on Tuesday afternoon; most of the principal men in town attended. Rev. Mr. Castrella has been appointed to succeed Canon Fuentes.

The latest news from Rosario is of a rather amusing character: a provincial Governor, who had arrived with his contingent, went to the theatre, and it appears, although occupying the State box, persisted in smoking his cigar; when, however, the rules of the house were explained to him, he retired, but unfortunately got up into the 'cazuela,' by some mistake, where he caused the greatest excitement. He at length found his way out of the theatre, highly indignant at the extraordinary customs, etc., of the Rosarinos.

It is rumored, we know not on what grounds, that a new theatre is about to be built in this city, twice the size of the Victoria, and even larger than the Colon.

One of our colleagues states that Don Carlos Saguer has bought up all the Paraguayan yerba, on speculation, and that the total value of all the stock on hand is three millions currency. We strongly suspect that our colleague must have some yerba interest at stake: it is a surprising fact, how Paraguayan yerba has gone out of use since the war commenced; the consumption of this article was formerly very great, but now it has dwindled down to nothing.

From Corrientes we learn that the gunners at Itapua keep up a continuous firing across the river. Some soldiers of Flores were taking mate beneath a tree near the pass, when suddenly the branches of the trees were cut to pieces, and the tree itself shot down, by the gunners at Itapua. The soldiers took to their heels, to look for a more secure spot to enjoy their mate.

The last Paraguayan invasion of the Province of Corrientes was merely for cattle—we hear that they swept away some 300 cows on the Indian style. We hear that the new organ at the English church is a splendid instrument. On Christmas day it was first played; the church, we are told, was beautifully decorated with green boughs, and, notwithstanding the intense heat, was crowded; Rev. Mr. Ford, chaplain, assisted by the new English clergyman, the Rev. Mr. Powell, officiated. The organ is the gift of Mr. Edward Lumb, a wealthy English merchant of this city.

The Provincial Government has ordered the town of Ranchos to be surveyed, and appointed a city surveyor, Sr. Fernandez. This effort of the Government to resuscitate one of our oldest camp towns will no doubt be appreciated by the Rancheros. We hear that on an English estancia near Ranchos, Christmas day was kept up in English style, all the neighbors, far and near, were invited, and dancing was kept up till late on Tuesday morning. There has been little rain out in that neighborhood as yet, and the sheepfarmers are complaining of the drought.

Colonel Diaz has marched with the General Paz and Cordova Brigades for Corrientes. The departure of the troops was witnessed by all the people of Rosario.

New wheat is now arriving almost daily in the market. We hear the crop greatly praised. Several 'chaceros' have what is called 'pedigree wheat,' which was introduced by our lamented friend, Consul Phibbs. The seed he scattered has done well. The wheat crop this year is the finest and best ever known in the river Plate.

The current price paid is \$150 per faega.

An emigration agent, who purposes buying a large tract of land, and bringing out several hundred families, is at present in Rosario arranging with the Government about the terms, &c., for the land.

The Western Railway will be opened to Ohivileo: in the middle of April, which will be a great boon for the farmers in that neighborhood.

The new English steamer Ajax, which arrived here the other day, is now offered for sale. She is a very fine steamer, and admirably suited for the river traffic.

A gentleman who keeps an exact account of the Brazilian force in the River Plate, informed us the other day that the total number of Brazilian forces in the River Plate and on the Brazilian frontier is little less than eighty thousand men.

There is a gentleman in town who has the walking-stick of the celebrated Paraguayan despot and dictator, Francia; it is a yard-and-a-quarter long, of Paraguayan wood, and with a gold head. We wonder what would Madame Tussaud give for it.

Few of our readers know the whereabouts of Paseo Colon, a small muddy locality which Mr. Cazon has adorned with weeping willows and broken seats; it is half-way between the Boca Railway station at Calle Venezuela and the Yellow-house: there is great noise made about the civic nobles sending down a band of music to play every evening: although we are fond of music, we oppose the measure until the place is first drained: when the river is low, the profundity of the mud is incredible, and when high water, the only place for the musicians would be in the boughs of the trees: nobody ever goes to this out of the way and disgusting attempt at a park. A band of music on the mole-head, would be nearer the mark.

The Ferro-carril of Rosario has some severe attacks on Matti, the steamboat agent, for taking away Captain Bruce's new steamer and putting her on the Montevideo route: the people in Rosario are furious at the present steamboat accommodation on the river—the splendid steamer Rio Parana, suffered severely in the late collision and will not be ready to run again for a month.

Yesterday there was a small collision on the Boca Railway, caused by a cart-load of pine being too near the rails, the smoking car suffered slightly and got a little staved in, the cart, horse, pine, and cartman were all walked off to the Policia; and we suppose Cazon immediately put them all in the stocks.

Our subscribers in Montevideo can find Consul Hutchinson's work on the River Plate at our agent's, Sprunck's, calle Zavala No. 93.

We hear that an English engineer formerly connected with one of our railways is shortly expected out here with several small steamers for Bolivia: how these steamers are to get to their port of destination we are at a loss to say, unless they go up the Vermejo in which case the blockading squadron must permit them to pass: the affair looks to be a trick on the Brazilians, for the steamers must be allowed to pass up, since they will be cleared from England for Bolivia, and no blockade of the rivers is recognized.

Advices from the camp are of a rather gloomy nature, the sheep are dying in many parts, not having got water in time; the pulperos are all about to smash up, owing to the great scarcity of money and the heavy losses in wool, hides and even sheepskins: our friends, the 'almaceneros,' in town also complain that they cannot get a dollar from the camp this year, when this is the season that they should receive most money from their country dealers.

Our agent from Cordova is in town, Sr. Ibaceta: he gives us the most gratifying news about the Angora goats: the cross with the native Cordovese goat has proved highly satisfactory, and now all question or doubt respecting the Angora-goat business in Cordova is put an end to. In a few days we shall be able to give our readers full particulars respecting the Angora goat business in Cordova.

The Rio de la Plata arrived yesterday with mails and passengers from

Uruguay. In Entre Rios everything is quiet.

An English master is greatly wanted in Cordova. This is a good opening for some of our countrymen.

To-day being the festival of Holy Innocents it is customary among the natives to play practical jokes, such as on All Fools Day in England—we caution our readers to be on the alert.

We regret to learn that Mr. Robert Billinghurst, formerly English Consular agent of Corrientes, has been arrested: we have not heard if Mr. Henry Hall has yet been liberated.

A subscriber from Azul informs us that most of the Indians, committing depredations at Tapalquen, are in reality run-away soldiers to whom the Government still owes 6 months' pay.

We have been requested to caution estancieros against shearing their sheep too close, as several flocks in the South have suffered severely during the recent hot weather, the animals dying from undue exposure to the sun.

A race is to take place on New Year's Day at Belgrano, between Poriteo and Engañador, for 20,000\$ a side.

We regret to hear that the locusts have made their appearance at Temperley Park, Lomas de Zamora.

A German yesterday attempted to drown himself, wife and 2 children, but all were happily rescued in time: he had just arrived in the country.

THE FRENCH IN PARAGUAY.

The 'Tribuna' publishes a letter from Bella Vista, Dec. 22nd, which gives an amusing and detailed account of the jollifications of the French gunboat 'Decidée' and the Imperial Chargé d'affaires, M. Vernouillet, at Asuncion:

1st day—grand reception by the inhabitants, to M. Vernouillet and the officers and crew of the Decidée.

2nd day—three banquets given by President Lopez, to the Chargé d'affaires, to the officers of the gunboat, and to the sailors of same.

3rd day—special train on the Villa Rica railway, for the illustrious French visitors.

4th day—three carriages provided by Government for the officers of the Decidée, to give them an airing.

5th day—splendid performances at the theatre in honor of the Frenchmen: command night.

6th day—great picnic to the country—house of Pres. Lopez: the Chargé d'affaires toasted the President, and the commander of the gunboat highly extolled the Republic of Paraguay.

7th day—dejeuner a la fourchette on board the Decidée: the Order of Merit, of Paraguay, conferred on M. Vernouillet and the commander.

The above little programmes show that the Frenchmen made the best use of their time, and that M. Vernouillet gave no thought to the tales of misery and starvation which are circulated respecting the awful condition of the inhabitants of Asuncion. On the contrary "all went merry as a marriage-bell."

But our duty as impartial chroniclers forces us to throw some doubt on the narrative. When we remember that the gentleman who writes from Bella Vista is nearly as far from Asuncion as from Buenos Ayres, there is room for suspicion that the news has been slightly diluted; and we almost venture to stamp as a complete falsehood the assertion that M. Vernouillet and the commander of the Decidée have received the Order of Merit, since it is well-known that no diplomatic or naval officer of Napoleon III dare accept such an honor without previous permission of the Imperial Government. As for the banquets, theatricals, and festivities we see no harm in such amusements, unless, in this hot weather, they should subsequently induce an attack of bile.

NEWS FROM BRAZIL.

STEEPLE-CHASING AT SAN CRISTOVAN.

THE GREAT PEDRO II TUNNEL.

COTTON IN SAN PAULO.

In Rio nothing of great importance has occurred. The second steamer of the New-York and Rio de Janeiro mail line arrived on the 20th of Nov. and sailed again on the 2d of December. A steeple chase took place on the 28th ult. at S. Christovão, which was hon-

ored by the attendance of Their Imperial Majesties and the Imperial family; and the 2d instant being the anniversary of the Emperor's natal day, a grand levee took place, at which all the Diplomatic Corps and other distinguished individuals attended, to felicitate His Imperial Majesty on the occasion.

The Grand Tunnel of the second section of the Pedro II Railway was opened on the 2nd, after seven years' continuous labor.

This great work, completing the second section of the Railway, was opened to an experimental train upon the 2nd, and will be opened to the ordinary railway traffic about the middle of December.

This tunnel, from end to end, is 7,336 feet long. Half of it is lined with brick and wrought stone set in cement and the other half is worked in the solid rock.

The great and distinguishing feature of the present harvest of 1865 is this—that it establishes, after four years' trial, the substantial fact that the province of S. Paulo can produce and export an excellent cotton. Henceforth this fact will of course occupy greater attention, and the province will be as well known in Manchester as Pernambuco and Bahia.

The cotton crop was at first roughly calculated at about 300,000 arrobas; but subsequently put lower, in consequence of the entries at the barrier of Cubatão not having been so large as was expected, in relation to a produce of 300,000 arrobas. But subsequent inquiries tend to establish the correctness of these figures.

The Rio Grande do Sul Railway.—From Rio do Sul we learn from Mr. Lorenzo O'Rourke C. E. that they expected to leave that town about the 20th, to initiate the survey of the direct line to the Candiota coal mines on the Jaguarão. The preliminary examination of the country would occupy probably two or three weeks, and a conclusion will possibly be arrived at then, as to the cost compared with that of the line which Mr. O'Rourke took part in surveying by the valleys of the Lake Mirim and River Jaguarão.

The London and Brazilian Bank commenced on the 7th to draw again at 25d and a considerable amount of business was done at that rate.

Amount negotiated for this packet is estimated at about £450,000. Such fluctuations in Exchange are ruinous to the commercial interests of the country, and must continue so long as the Bank of Brazil does not resume specie payments.

On Paris a large business has been done, at from 360 at 365 for private Bills prior to arrival of packet and, afterwards, at from 370 at 375. On Hamburg transactions are too small to warrant quotations.

Sovereigns have advanced and are now worth Rs. 98600 to 98700.

Bank of Brazil shares 38000 premium; market closes firm. Banco Rural Shares Rs. 1908000. Government stock 6 p. s., buyers at 96.

Money—abundant first Bills at short dates negotiated at 6 1/2 p. s.; long dates 8 to 9 p. s.

'Steam Ships sold'.—The 'Agnes Arkle' and 'Lelia Bell' have been sold to the Brazilian Steam Packet Co. for Rs. 350,000\$000; and the 'Britannia' consigned to Messrs. Brandon & Harrah, for £9,000

Anglo Brazilian Times.

MORE NEWS FROM CHILE.

RUMORED SPANISH REPRISALS.

The 'España' of yesterday published two private letters from Rosario, 24th, and Mendoza, 16th inst, announcing that the Spanish frigate Resolucion sank the Chilean steamer Esmeralda and her prize the Covadonga in a combat given by Captain Williams in the port of Valparaiso: the first was sunk in 20 minutes, the second 10 minutes after, and it seems every soul on board these vessels perished. It is strange the date of this encounter is not given, and as the only authority is some vague rumor by Spanish refugees arrived in Mendoza, the story will probably turn out a 'bola,' like the capture of the Resolucion.

The mails will arrive on Friday.



