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The Standard.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1865.

THE NEW YEAR.

The old year is nearly out, and we part with him not without regret: he has accompanied us through many strange vicissitudes, and is about to breathe his last. We are certainly losing an old friend, and know not whether his successor will treat us so kindly. But as the French say—Le dieu est mort! Vive la Roi!! it is vain to give way to regret, and while we throw a little dust over the remains of 1865, we should gladly welcome the little stranger of 1866.

Hoping that all our readers shall reach the end of the coming year, and enjoy every happiness and prosperity in the interim, we heartily wish them 'A happy New Year.'

THE YEAR 1865.

The year which has now come to a close has been fruitful in striking events, and much as we regret to have to record so many deeds of blood and waste of energies, it is at least consoling to know that we have passed through a trying ordeal without serious detriment to the well-being of the country. Meantime, we have made much progress in industrial development, and can look with increased confidence on the prospects of the River Plate. In making our usual annual review, we can only jot down the principal occurrences of each month, without pretending to classify them in logical order, and leaving to the reader the task of making his own inferences or reflections.

January. Paysandú, besieged by Flores and 12,000 Brazilians and defended by 600 men under the valiant Leandro Gomez, taken by storm, and Gomez and others put to death. The Paraguayans invade Matto Grosso, and seize Fort Coimbra, Curumbá, and other places. Declaration of war by Brazil against Paraguay. Sor. Paranhos enforces, unsuccessfully, to induce President Mitre to enter into alliance with Brazil. Preparations in Montevideo for a desperate resistance; suspension of specie payments, and alarm about gunpowder deposits. President Mitre runs off at Lobos. Northern Railway opened to the Tigre. Election held at Rosario. The 'Argentine Citizen,' a new English fortnightly paper. Captain Harrison concludes a contract with Government for steam-navigation of the rivers.

February. The Brazilians blockade Montevideo; meeting of the English merchants; Sr. Villalba is elected Governor, and surrenders the place to the Brazilians; Gen. Flores assumes command, and the Blanco party escape on board foreign vessels. Sr. Lastarria, new Chilean envoy, arrives at Buenos Ayres, and raises an absurd claim to the territory of Patagonia. Sr. Camiloes, special Paraguayan envoy, comes to solicit permission from Pres. Mitre for Gen. Lopez to march across Corrientes, which is peremptorily refused. Baron Maná gives up the Rio Salado navigation works, but they are soon after continued by Mr. Rams. Mr. Mortimer is sent by Government to survey the projected railway from Paraná to Nogoyá. The French packet is lost near Bahía: all souls saved.

March. Shocking murder of a lottery boy in the Government-house. Murder of ex-Governor Posse at Cordoba, by the military. Sor Paranhos recalled by the Brazilian Government. President Lopez convenes a Congress at Asuncion. The Pacific mails announce the submission of Peru to the demands of Spain. Another revolution in Bolivia. Good news from the San Pedro river mines. Return of Mr. ... from London, in connection with the Cordoba Land Co. Several Scotch farmers settle at Frayle Muerto. Dr. Rawson's circular on planting Eucalyptus. Foreign Amateur races at Belgrano. The 'Zeitung,' a new German paper published three times a week. The French residents of Montevideo present a sword of honor to Admiral Chaigneau.

April. Dr. Rawson goes on special mission to Cordoba, relative to the murder of Posse. Departure of the Brazilian fleet for Paraguayan waters. Paraguayan outrage: Lopez seizes 2 Argentine steamers, and occupies the city of Corrientes. Sor. Octaviano, new Brazilian minister, arrives in Buenos Ayres. General Flores arrives from Montevideo: preliminaries for a triple alliance. General Urquiza calls out the cavalry of Entre-Rios: his visit to Buenos Ayres. Terrible occurrence in Calle Carrito: Captain Johnson almost killed by the Serenos. H. B. M. gunboat Dotorell despatched to Paraguay. Petroleum discovered in Jujuy by Sor. Villa. English mining Co. in Bioja. Beef-packing Co. established at Rosario. Arrival of Angora goats from Cape of Good Hope. River Plate Magazine dies.

May. Opening of Congress by Pres. Mitre. Grand banquet given by Sr. Octaviano. Alliance offensive and defensive concluded between Brazil, the Argentine Republic and the Banda Oriental. Formal declaration of war against Paraguay by the Argentine Republic. March of Gen. Urquiza's army. Great German concert at Montevideo. Murder of Mr. Marshall at Carcarañá. Outrage on an American citizen by the authorities of San Nicolas. Establishment of a Welsh colony in Patagonia. Marriage of Pres. Mitre's daughter to Sr. Drago. The Montevideo Government grants a concession to Mr. P. Beare O. E. for a railway from Montevideo to Durazno. Paraguayans advancing on Goya. General Pauneró recovers Corrientes for one day. The "Argentine Citizen" dies.

June. British hospital bazaar: nett proceeds £3,500. Great American meeting of condolence for the assassination of President Lincoln: funeral service at the American church. Similar meeting at Montevideo. Landing of the men wounded in the attack on Corrientes. Departure of President Mitre for Concordia, to take the field, accompanied by the Nat. Guards of Buenos Ayres. The Paraguayans invade Bio Grande, seizing San Borja, and marching rapidly southwards. Terrible battle of the fleets at Riachuelo; after 9 hours fighting, 4 Paraguayan steamers and one Brazilian gunboat sunk, and three others disabled. Sor. Biestra sent to England to contract a loan.

July. American banquet on anniversary of Independence. Obsequies of Brazilian sailors at the Cathedral. Mutiny of Urquiza's army at Busualdo, 8,000 men disbanded. The Paraguayans in winter quarters at Empedrado. Great sufferings of the inhabitants of Goya and Esquina. Dr. Rawson returns from Cordoba. Pamphlet published in Paris by the Paraguayan Minister causes much attention. Disturbances in Rioja. Testimonial to V. Rev. Canon Fahy. Death of Consul Phibbs. Flores marches, with the vanguard, towards Paso los Libros.

August. Mutiny at the Retiro. Great Southern railway opened as far as Jenner. Battle of Las Cuevas: Brazilian vessels cut up by enemy's batteries. Victory of Yatay: Flores takes 1,500 Paraguayans prisoners; 2,000 more slain. Sanitary Committee established in Buenos Ayres. Murder of Campbell family at Colonia. The 'River Plate Times,' an English weekly paper (published fortnightly) at Montevideo. The Argentine Congress votes a subsidy of 20,000\$ per an. for a steam line from New York. Siege of Uruguayana by the allies.

September. New-paper-money in B. Ayres. British theatricals at Montevideo. Project to plant Eucalyptus on the islands of the Paraná. A Paraguayan invasion in the Chaco. Horrible murder in the ... Departure of Mr. Thomson, British Minister, for Rio Janeiro. Return of Major Rickard, San Juan Mining Co., from London. Monument erected to Admiral Brown by his widow. Wilkes and Bading's land grant of San Xavier in the Gran

Chaco. Morgan's beef-bearing very successful. The Boca Railway opened to traffic. Strikes among the 'serenos.' Mutiny of the Cordoba contingent. Fall of Uruguayana: 5,500 Paraguayans surrender to the allies without firing a shot.

October. Serious riots at the Policia, owing to several of their body being murdered with impunity by the military. Mutinies of the San Juan and Santiago contingents in route for Rosario. Sufferings of the Welsh Colony in Patagonia. General Mitre establishes head-quarters at Mercedes: concentration of all the allied armies. The Pacific mails announce a rupture between Spain and Chile: the port of Valparaiso and several others, blockaded. Explosion of the French packet Carmel at Montevideo: 12 persons killed or wounded. The Central Argentine railway inaugurated as far as Carcarañá; 12 leagues. The 'River Plate Times' dies.

November. The Paraguayans evacuate Corrientes: The allies recover that city, with great rejoicings. Foreign Amateur Races at Belgrano. Murder of Mr. Peters at Arrecifes. Mr. Hitcheus, of London, goes to prospect the gold-fields of Tacuarembó, Banda Oriental. Sanitary Committee Bazaar at Progreso Club, realized £5,000. Excursion to Ensenada in connection with Mr. Wheelwright's project of a port and railway. Inauguration of the Coliseum Concert-hall. Disturbances at La Paz. Notes between Presidents Lopez and Mitre, the former threatening reprisals. Urquiza's army disbanded at Toledo.

December. Rapture between the S. Railway Directors and the Government of Buenos Ayres. Tacuarembó gold-mining Co. formed at Montevideo. Loss of the Liverpool steamer Herschell near Maldonado: all souls saved. Capt. Richardson gets a land-grant in the Gran Chaco, for 100 American families. The Southern railway opened to traffic to Chascomus. Indian invasions in Tapalquen and 25 de Mayo. Bull-fighting in Montevideo: 3 men killed or wounded. Chilean Minister expelled from Montevideo. New Municipality of Buenos Ayres. Excessive heat: 104 in the shade. The Pacific mails announce the Chileans have taken the Spanish war-vessel Covadonga. A battle between the allies and Paraguayans considered imminent, at Paso la Patria.

EDITOR'S TABLE.

In consequence of the stormy state of things in the Plate, the British squadron will be shortly reinforced. The Spiteful, 6 guns, 280 horse-power and 1054 tons, Commander Fletcher; and the Malacca, 17 guns, 200 horse-power and 1034 tons, Captain Oldfield, have been ordered out.

Yesterday there was a rather amusing row in the South Plaza. An estanciero sent from Magdalena 9 carts of wool, and the wool on being weighed turned out four arrobes short, which the 'tropero' refused to pay, alleging that the locusts had eaten it. The case was brought before the plaza judge, and evidence given to show that the locusts attacked the carts, ate away the 'paja,' devoured the 'tropero's' hat whilst he was sleeping 'siesta.' A verdict at once given for the defendant. The locusts in the south camps are doing great damage, and are now making towards the city. The last two nights were so fresh that it is thought they will kill the locusts. The 'Mitre letter' is still the grand topic among our city politicians. The 'Nacional' continues its attacks on President Mitre. In Montevideo some of the papers are also very severe, but as affairs at present stand in this country, it were well to forget these interminable political squabbles, which in the end amount to nothing. The letter in question contained nothing but a few hard epithets, which most people believe were not undeserved, but the publication of it was highly indispensible, and it would be far better for a Paraguayan invasion in the Chaco. Horrible murder in the ... Departure of Mr. Thomson, British Minister, for Rio Janeiro. Return of Major Rickard, San Juan Mining Co., from London. Monument erected to Admiral Brown by his widow. Wilkes and Bading's land grant of San Xavier in the Gran

has not been yet concluded, although it is every way probable. During the last week we notice a great increase in the arrival of French and Italian emigrants; almost every day the mole was crowded with men, women and children, and piles of luggage. This is the best sight that can be witnessed in Buenos Ayres. Our only regret is that we see so few of our own countrymen arriving. Manuel P. Peña, the great Paraguayan writer against Lopez, is one of the most extraordinary men of the age. He was a close prisoner for 13 years at Asuncion, by order of Francia, and during that time he learned Latin, and from the information which he received from some Argentines, who were also prisoners, he made a map of the City of Buenos Ayres. Peña is not uncle to Lopez, but cousin, and some years ago the present ruler of Paraguay was under his charge in this city. His mother was a friend of Francis, the dictator, before he was elected President. His prison anecdotes would fill a book. To-morrow the excursion train on the Southern Railway runs out to Chascomus; fare, out and back, first class, \$120. The weather is cool and pleasant, and we have no doubt hundreds will avail themselves of the opportunity to see the camps. There is a capital hotel in the town, Hotel Provençal, and our indefatigable agents, Wyllie & Co., will be only too happy to show all our friends the rustic beauties of sweet Chascomus. We notice the nomination of our friend Col. Orquera, to the post of Military Fiscal. This gentleman has great experience and is every way qualified to fill this important post. The mole has at last been repaired. Yesterday the holes were closed up, and people can now pass up and down without any extra human risk. This we regard as a stupendous editorial victory for the 'Standard.' A small schooner, the Chaco, lying at Rosario with flour and gunpowder, took fire the other day. The Captain of the Port, with his men, lent every aid to extinguish the fire. We hear that Sr. Echevarria and his men acted with the greatest heroism on the occasion. The last Mendoza diligence brought down four thousand Bolivianos and a few ounces, also an American gentleman from Chile, who posted across the Andes to catch his steamer in Rio. We hear that an American merchant in Peru has made within the last six months one million and a half patacons, supplying food, etc., to the rebels. Verily, it is an ill wind that blows nobody good. The case of the Spanish Vice Consul on board the French gunboat Decidée, said to be a prisoner on board, is attracting great attention. We believe that the man is not a prisoner at all, but that on leaving Paraguay he gave his parole not to land in Argentine territory, and therefore prefers to go ashore at Montevideo. The French gunboat could not be made a prison, and it is a calumny against the commander to charge him with such an act. Salas has committed no crime against France, nor against French law, neither is he a Franchman; it is therefore preposterous to suppose that he was ever received on board a French gunboat as a prisoner. We believe that Salas gave his word to Lopez not to land at any point in the Argentine Republic, and as a man of honor, he keeps his promise. This is the real version of the case. General Suarez, one of Flores' lieutenants, is about to leave the allied army on account of ill health. He will return to Uruguay on a private place. Mr. Victor D... church—some say it is too high, but all admit it is crooked, and the real grievances of the town by its ... joyance that ... is the que- ... the town ... does he not show ... that, not least, Why does 'Standard' take up the ... the pressure of a dozen subscribers, we now insist on knowing what is the cause of the delay. When the illustrious Barros Pazos was

We hear that yellow fever has been taken out on board some of Her Majesty's war vessels on the coast of Africa, causing great mortality. Our navy friends will learn with pleasure that the Duke of Somerset has given up the ship, and Milner Gibson, the greatest man in England for making promotions, is now First Lord of the Admiralty.

As Buenos Ayres is now the headquarters of all war news in the Plate, people wonder why Admiral Elliott remains in Montevideo. The weather is cooler here, and news from Paraguay, Corrientes, and even Chile, fresher; Buenos Ayres, therefore, with all due respect for our gallant friend the Admiral, should be the station. A friend from the South informs us that good mestiza sheep can be bought in the partidos Ranchos, Chascomus, and Magdalena at \$25 each; and we hear that in the partido of Vecino the current price for a league of camp is \$300,000. From Dolores to town our friend assures us that the camps look bad, being fearfully overstocked, and if estancieros themselves will not open their eyes to the dangers, the Government at least ought to interfere and prohibit more than 15,000 sheep on any league of land in the country.

We have been assured on the very highest authority that, notwithstanding the enormous rental of the Municipality, the gas bills for the month cannot be paid; there is something so scandalous in this business that it is high time an enquiry be made into the accounts of the Municipality, what becomes of the money? how spent. It speaks volumes against the machinery of our institutions, that such humiliating facts are incontrovertible. The heaviest holder of Gas shares is an English merchant. An estanciero from Tuyú requests us to ask the Committee down there what about the grand British Hospital ball, for which some ten thousand dollars were subscribed, the ball should have taken place last month, and but was then postponed; meanwhile the money has been paid to the Committee, and now no one knows when the hop is to take place.

The great race between Engañador, son of Ireland's Glory, and Portaña, will come off to-morrow; yesterday the betting at the Casino was in favor of the heir of Hibernian greatness, Portaña nevertheless is a great favorite. All town is going to witness the race. Hurrah for both horses. There will be no paper until next Wednesday morning, owing to the holidays.

TERRIBLE ROW IN QUILMES. WHAT ABOUT THE RAILWAY? STATE OF THE QUILMES MARKET. The people of Quilmes are furious at the delay in carrying on the works of the Boca Railway; never, since the days when the tomahawk held sway, Quilmes, has there been such a row as at present. Our active agent, finding it impossible to still the voice of seditious discontent, galloped into town to acquaint us with what is going on. The quinteros, the municipality, even the very milkmen of the locality, are loud in their imprecations on the Government of Buenos Ayres, which they, in their ignorance, charge with the delay. A public park was talked of, an English hotel hinted at, but Salvador, at the Barraca bridge, dispelled these illusions by getting up a mock petition, signed by all the saladero peons of the neighborhood, against the railway. Public expectation and excitement has been wound up to such a pitch that now the Quilmes people will listen to nothing, and a most extraordinary display has arisen about the new steeple-catch-tower, never ... railway. This ... joyance that ... is the que- ... the town ... does he not show ... that, not least, Why does 'Standard' take up the ... the pressure of a dozen subscribers, we now insist on knowing what is the cause of the delay. When the illustrious Barros Pazos was

Genoese ingenuity has called into existence some teeming cabbage gardens, which are also offered as a bargain, since there is no sign of the railway, the truth be told. Quilmes could be sold in five minutes, could a Chapman be found rich enough to buy it. In making this remark, or borrowed statement, far be it from being supposed that any allusion is made to the renowned and of Pallan Pallan, but the object is to touch up the Rothschilds of Buenos Ayres, and induce them to invest the Eden of this Province. As for trade, there is nothing particular to mention. Money is tight—so tight that 'no one pays body'—in fact, money is always in Quilmes. Cocks, hens, and turkeys in steady demand on time, no cash. Potatoes, heavy owing to few Irishmen in the place. Milk competition and most of the dealers liquidating. Eggs, firm at last quotations, two of the principal dealers smashed last week in trying to cross the Puente Chico.

Green crops, being eaten up by locusts and bicha-mora. Quilmes is lost if the railway is not pushed ahead.

THE CHILIAN WAR IN ENGLAND. MEETING OF LIVERPOOL MERCHANTS. The Chairman then read a resolution to the following effect:— "That this meeting having deliberated upon the detailed information just received from the West Coast of South America with reference to the questions in dispute between the Governments of Spain and Chili, views with surprise and indignation the course pursued by the Spanish Admiral in the blockade of the Republic, by which the interests of the neutrals there greatly suffer, are of opinion that a memorial embracing the sense of the meeting be forwarded to the British Government, and that a deputation consisting of the chairman, the members for the borough, and other gentlemen do present it." The following was the memorial:— "To the Right Hon. the Earl of Clarendon. "The memorial of the undersigned merchants, shipowners, and others engaged in trade and commerce with the West Coast of South America, sheweth that your memorialists are deeply interested in the commerce of the several Republics on the West Coast of South America, especially with the Republics of Chili and Peru; that the interests of your memorialists have suffered materially from the hostile measures inflicted by Spain on the Republic of Peru in the present year, and now view with great alarm the attitude assumed by Spain on the Republic of Chili, under which, as appears by the advices to hand, the ports of Chili have been blockaded by the Spanish squadron, and ulterior measures threatened.

The blockade of the ports of Chili has already inflicted considerable loss on your memorialists, and your memorialists most seriously protest against these interests. That without entering into the merits of the difficulty between the