

MAU BANK

101-103 CALLE CANGALLO
The office of this Bank having been removed to the above spacious building, in order to suit the increasing flow of business, the public is informed that the following transactions are carried on in currency and specie in this Bank:
First—Bills and obligations with good signatures are discounted on conventional terms.
Second—Money is received on mercantile bills and other securities approved by the Manager.
Third—Accounts current are opened with Merchants or other parties who may prefer depositing and endorser and mercantile securities, against which they may draw up to an amount previously convened under conditions established for such class of operations.
Fourth—Money is received in account current, bearing interest from day of deposit, which is accumulated in favor of the parties every three months, the depositors being allowed to retire at any time, by means of checks, part or the full amount at their will, even when the quantity exceeds three hundred dollars or one hundred thousand dollars currency, in which case forty-eight hours previous notice is required to be given at the Treasury of the Bank.
Fifth—Bills or letters of credit are drawn and taken on Montevideo, Rosario, Sta. Fe, Salto, Oriental, Paysandú, Rio Janeiro, and other places in the Brazil, England and other countries, as also on other places, of which notice will be given hereafter.
Finally, the Bank undertakes and executes all legitimate transactions within the orbit of bank operations.
The establishment is always open from 10 a.m. till 3 p.m.
P. P. MACA & Co.
M. A. DE FREITAS AMORIM.
January 1st, 1868.

MAU BANK

101-103 CALLE CANGALLO.
INTEREST FOR CURRENT MONTH, IN ACCOUNT CURRENT, SPECIE, For balances in our favor, 12 per cent.
For balances in favor of Customers, 6 per cent.
IN ACCOUNT CURRENT, PAPER MONEY For balances in our favor, 12 per cent.
For balances in favor of Customers, 6 per cent.
Deposits on 15 days' notice, paper, Do, do, do, gold, 6 per cent.
Do, 30 days' do, paper, Do, do, do, gold, 6 per cent.
Fixed deposits from, Maca & Co., M. A. DE FREITAS AMORIM.
Jan. 1, 1868.

ROYAL MAIL STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

REDUCTION OF FARES.
The Royal Mail Steamship Company have made the following REDUCTIONS in their Rates of Passage:
FARES:
First-class to Southampton, £25 and upwards.
Ditto, £15, £10, £5, £3, £2, £1, £0.50.
Specie: One-Half per cent.
RETURN TICKETS granted at the above Rates available for TWELVE Months.
A Deduction of ONE-SIXTH made to Families paying the Higher Rates, when such equal or exceed Four Adult Passages.
RETURN TICKETS are now issued to RIO DE JANEIRO, available for THREE Months, with an Abatement of 25 per cent.
For further particulars, apply to ABRAHAM ROBINSON, 104, xp.414 No. 77, Calle 25 de Mayo.

RIVER PLATE TELEGRAPH COMPANY (LIMITED).

CHIEF OFFICES: CALLE LAS PIEDRAS, MONTEVIDEO.
CENTRAL STATION: 87 CALLE CANGALLO, BUENOS AYRES.
MAIN LINE: Buenos Ayres, San José, Cobán, Rosario, B. O.
GREAT SOUTHERN RAILWAY BRANCH: Plaza Constitución, San Isidro, South Barracas, Ferrari, Lomas de Zamora, Jagger, Alvarado, San Vicente, Chascomus.
NORTHERN RAILWAY BRANCH: San Isidro, San Fernando, Tigre.
MAIN LINE TARIFF: Ten Words, exclusive of Address, \$50m/c, or \$62. For every additional Ten Words, \$25m/c, or \$51.
GREAT SOUTHERN RAILWAY BRANCH TARIFF: Ten Words, exclusive of Address, from Cangallo to Plaza Constitución, \$10 m/c. From Central Telegraph Station to the South Barracas, \$10 m/c. From Central Telegraph Station to the other Stations on the Line, \$25 m/c. Half of the Original Rates for every additional Ten Words.

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The Standard AND RIVER PLATE NEWS.

NO. 2039—EIGHTH YEAR. BUENOS AYRES, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 1868. CIRCULATION 3000

LONDON AND RIVER PLATE BANK (LIMITED).

80—CALLE DE LA PIEDAD—80
Authorized Capital, £2,000,000 sterling.
Subscribed Capital, £1,500,000 do.
Reserve Fund Jan. 1868, £1,500,000 do.
Current accounts opened with parties properly introduced and interest allowed on credit balances.
Customers have the advantage of drawing checks of having approved bills discounted—of obtaining loans upon negotiable securities—of depositing bills, coupons, &c. for collection—and of lodging with the Bank valuable property in all its proof strong rooms for safe custody.
The public generally—either for fixed periods or subject to seven or thirty days' notice of withdrawal—interest on which is regulated by the market value of money, the Bank notifying any change in the rate by advertisement in the principal daily papers.
Bill of Exchange—issued on the following places: London, Hamburg, Rio de Janeiro, Montevideo, Rosario & Córdoba.
All Branches of the National Bank of Scotland.
H. GREEN, Manager.
Buenos Ayres, Sept. 1, 1868.

LONDON AND RIVER PLATE BANK (LIMITED).

80—CALLE DE LA PIEDAD—80
The rates of interest allowed and charged by the Bank will be as follows, till further notice:
On deposits in both currencies in account current, 4 per cent.
On do, do, for 90 days fixed, 6 per cent.
On do, do, subject to 30 days' notice of withdrawal, 6 per cent.
On do, do, subject to 30 days' notice of withdrawal, 6 per cent.
For Dividends in account current, 12 per cent.
On debit balances in account current, 12 per cent.
in both currencies.
J. H. GREEN, Manager.
Buenos Ayres, Sept. 1, 1868.

THE ARGENTINE MARINE INSURANCE CO.

Established in this City.
Insure at Moderate Premiums all Risks by Sea or on the River.
OFFICE—118 CALLE PIEDAD.
Directors: Thomas Armstrong, President. Francisco F. Moreno, Vice-President. Antonio P. Leizaola, Enrique Tomkinson, Bernardo Yturraque, Antonio Demachy.

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THE PROVINCIAL BANK OF BUENOS AYRES.

BUSINESS HOURS FROM 10 A.M. TO 4 P.M.
Deposits of not less than \$400 m/c. and \$116 received. These deposits will not be entitled to interest if retired before the expiration of sixty days from the date of such deposit; after sixty days they will be entitled to interest from the date of the deposit. All interests not collected shall at the end of each year be capitalized. All deposits at interest shall be entered in a book which the Bank will deliver to the depositor, in which all payments of interest and capital shall be entered, and all interest shall be payable after the first of the month or on retiring the deposit. The Bank discounts all bills of exchange, and also discounts mercantile bills of ten to seven days, on the condition that at maturity they are paid in full.
The Bank draws at sight upon the following branches:
DOLORES, CHIQUILCOY, SAN NICOLAS, MERCEDES, LOBOS, BARADERO, SALTÓ, AZUL.
The Bank pays a commission to Brokers on the first discounting of bills and promissory notes.
The Bank lends to artisans and operatives sums from three to twenty thousand dollars on their own signature, taking as security a document with any well-known commercial name.
CREDS IN ACCOUNT CURRENT.
1st. The Bank opens accounts current for commercial houses.
2nd. The security to be either personal, or with documentary value.
3rd. In each case the Bank shall fix the amount of credit.
4th. The Director shall from time to time arrange the rate of interest pro and contra.
5th. Each account shall be liquidated every 60 days.
6th. A pass-book will be given to parties opening accounts current, for entry of cheques and sundry deposits.
Till further notice the rates shall be as follows:
Buenos in our favor, 6 per cent.
In favor of customers, 2 per cent.
ALLOWES—
To private depositors, 6 per cent. per annum m/c.
Do, do, do, do, do, do, cur.
CHARGES—
Discounts in currency, 8 per cent. per annum.
Do, specie, 8 per cent. per annum.
E. V. ZAMUDIO, SECRETARY.
Buenos Ayres, March 23, 1867.

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Deposits of not less than \$400 m/c. and \$116 received. These deposits will not be entitled to interest if retired before the expiration of sixty days from the date of such deposit; after sixty days they will be entitled to interest from the date of the deposit. All interests not collected shall at the end of each year be capitalized. All deposits at interest shall be entered in a book which the Bank will deliver to the depositor, in which all payments of interest and capital shall be entered, and all interest shall be payable after the first of the month or on retiring the deposit. The Bank discounts all bills of exchange, and also discounts mercantile bills of ten to seven days, on the condition that at maturity they are paid in full.
The Bank draws at sight upon the following branches:
DOLORES, CHIQUILCOY, SAN NICOLAS, MERCEDES, LOBOS, BARADERO, SALTÓ, AZUL.
The Bank pays a commission to Brokers on the first discounting of bills and promissory notes.
The Bank lends to artisans and operatives sums from three to twenty thousand dollars on their own signature, taking as security a document with any well-known commercial name.
CREDS IN ACCOUNT CURRENT.
1st. The Bank opens accounts current for commercial houses.
2nd. The security to be either personal, or with documentary value.
3rd. In each case the Bank shall fix the amount of credit.
4th. The Director shall from time to time arrange the rate of interest pro and contra.
5th. Each account shall be liquidated every 60 days.
6th. A pass-book will be given to parties opening accounts current, for entry of cheques and sundry deposits.
Till further notice the rates shall be as follows:
Buenos in our favor, 6 per cent.
In favor of customers, 2 per cent.
ALLOWES—
To private depositors, 6 per cent. per annum m/c.
Do, do, do, do, do, do, cur.
CHARGES—
Discounts in currency, 8 per cent. per annum.
Do, specie, 8 per cent. per annum.
E. V. ZAMUDIO, SECRETARY.
Buenos Ayres, March 23, 1867.

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CUNNINGHAM & PEARSON.

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ROSA RIO.
Wool and Produce Broker.
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44, xp.414 No. 5.
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Commission Merchant.
No. 5—CALLE DEFENSA—No. 5.
44, xp.414 No. 5.

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HOTEL EUROPA.

ESTABLISHED A.D. 1809.
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Day Boarders at Reasonable Terms.
Guinness's Stout.
Bass's Ale.
German Beer.
Genuine VELLINER and YVORNE Wines.
Rhine Wine.
Bordeaux Wine.
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Sandwiches and Cakes.
Every description of English and American Dishes.
There is a splendid Billiard-room in the Hotel.
English, French, German, and Italian spoken.
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TO CORRESPONDENTS.
No notice can be taken of anonymous communications. Whatever is intended for insertion must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer; not a guarantee for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

The Standard.

"Nil falsi audiam, nil veri non audeam decernere."
Cicero.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 1865.

SPECIAL TELEGRAM
FOR "STANDARD."Montevideo, Nov. 25, 7.30 P.M.
The Panama from Valparaiso not in yet, but expected in before morning.

Exchange on London, small amount passed at 43, paid in paper, on France and Rio nothing.

1,600 Boxes of grease sold to-day at \$2. paid in gold.

Weather fine, but dusty.

THE CUSTOM HOUSE versus
STEWART.

THE Custom House authorities seem to have taken some exception to our remarks published recently respecting this case, for we have received a paper, evidently from some friend of the Custom House, putting the question in another light.

Our correspondent states that the Federal Court, in ordering Mr. Stewart to pay the duties on the yerba embargoed in the year 1865, according to the Custom House valuation of 1867, has decided according to the law the equities and merits of the case.

The yerba was imported from Paraguay by Mr. Stewart in 1865, and embargoed by order of the Government on the 24th of November, 1865. In the embargo decree there was a clause permitting Stewart to despatch the yerba at the Custom House on giving guarantee. Mr. Stewart did not avail himself of this clause, but allowed the yerba to remain in the Custom House pending the suit.

The Court decided that the confiscation of the yerba was illegal, and Mr. Stewart in May, 1867, petitioned the Collector for liberty to despatch the yerba, who granted same, ordering Stewart to pay the duties established by the law of 1867. Mr. Stewart demanded the valuation of the yerba and the duties payable thereon to be according to the law of 1865, which the Collector of the Custom House refused. The case was then carried to the Federal Court, which tribunal decided that the duties should be according to the law of 1867.

The grounds upon which Mr. Stewart urged his claim were that the yerba was imported in 1865—that he then demanded the right to despatch the same, which was denied him, in consequence of the embargo of the 24th of November 1865—that such embargo was illegal, since the Court declared that there was no power to confiscate same, and that if the valuation and duties of 1867 were charged instead of those of 1865, it would cause him serious damage, inasmuch as the Supreme Court had declared the embargo which gave rise to the question was in itself illegal.

The Custom House, on the other hand, alleges that it can only charge the duties upon the valuation according to the law of the year in which the yerba was despatched and not the year that it was imported—the yerba was despatched in 1867, and therefore it was that the duties of 1867 were charged.

The Custom House alleges that Mr. Stewart did not demand the despatch of his yerba in 1865, neither did he offer the guarantee mentioned in the decree of 24th November, 1865.

Our correspondent goes on to show that the Argentine Government had good grounds for embargoing the yerba, or at least stopping its sale until the whole facts of the case were clearly proven before the Court, inasmuch as the yerba came from an enemy's port, was an article of which the Paraguayan Government had the monopoly, and Stewart failed to give satisfactory evidence as to whom it belonged—there was nothing, therefore, improper in requiring Stewart to give a guarantee previous to despatching the yerba, and the delay which was caused in the despatching same did not arise from the embargo, but from Stewart having failed to give the said guarantee: furthermore, that Stewart suffered no loss by the delay; on the contrary, the price tripled from 1865 to 1867—and this very rise in the price is what caused the increased valuation in 1867, and so far from losing anything by the delay, the Custom House authorities offered to prove that Mr. Stewart gained heavily by it.

We set forth these facts as they have been given to us without entering much into the merits of the case. The most the Custom House can show is that the Government had probable cause for the embargo, but that probable cause will justify the Custom House in its pretensions appears rather a novel doctrine. The proceedings on the part of the Government "ab initio" were illegal, and all damages caused thereby or losses arising therefrom must be clearly chargeable to the Government, and the highest Court in the country has declared to the contrary. There is no appeal, and therefore we must bow to the decision. The case, however, establishes no precedent, as it is in every way exceptional.

ANOTHER REFORM.

Horse stealing in the camp has been carried on with such impunity, for the last two years, that the victimized farmers began to regard the rural authorities as bad as thieves. The business, almost as nefarious as the slave trade, left splendid profits, and was carried on in broad daylight. On repeated occasions, we called attention to the troops of stolen horses swept from the estancieros and sheepfarmers, and shipped to the army. We recollect one case, where an Irish sheepfarmer followed a horse dealer, or rather a horse stealer, from Chivilcoy to Matanzas, and thence to Zarate, arriving at the latter place, just in time to see his best horses shipped on board a very fine steam transport, bound up for Itapiru. He applied to the Judge, Alcalde, Captain of the Port and policemen for redress, but martial law ruled supreme at the time on the banks of the Parana, and the poor farmer, notwithstanding that he identified his horses and proved his mark, failed to get either the horses or their value. On another occasion some fifteen tropillas were swept off from the south camps, and driven leisurely to the same shipping port; a long string of estancieros, capataces, and sheepfarmers followed in the wake of the stolen tropillas; the horses were caught in a corral, but the peons in charge of the tropillas refused to give them up. Application was made to the Judge of the District for a warrant, but before the warrant arrived, the horses were on board and steaming up the Parana at the rate of ten knots an hour.

So vast was the system of horse stealing carried on, all over the camp, that the farmers and estancieros found themselves obliged to shut up all their tame horses every night, and care them with a peon during day. Some of the robbers have evidently swept off the favorite horses of an Alcalde, or country judge, for we find, to our delightful astonishment, that the matter has at last been brought before the Governor, and a stiff note passed to Mr. La Torre, the Justice of the Peace of Zarate, ordering his worship to be a little more circumspect in revising the marks of the various horses shipped to the army; as H. E. has reason to believe that some nags, the ownership of which is rather cloudy, have been shipped to the war.

We thank Governor Castro for the note in question, not so much on behalf of the poor farmers, who are now 'a-foot,' as for the cause of public morality. The horse business with the army is now nearly terminated; the last shipment of horses, 600 fine fat animals, proved a miserable business, inasmuch as Marques Caxias declined to receive them, in consequence of their having arrived a few days after the appointed time. The future historian of this war will probably tell the ultimate fate of these rejected brutes; we suppose they are wandering about the desert wilds of the Gran Chaco, to be caught by some tyrant Gaucho or savage Payagua.

Governor Castro's decree will have one good effect, it will assure our country friends that horse stealing for the allied army is not established by law; and the parties who have lost tame horses during the last few years, would confer a favor by forwarding to us a list of the horses stolen, we could then be in a position to publish, for the benefit of the general reading public of the River Plate, the catalogue of stolen brutes, upon which the allied cavalry made many a valiant charge.

NOTES ON SPAIN.

FIGURES rule the world, is a true saying—but certain it is that figures show how she is governed. With these words of the great Goethe we seek to lay before the reader a few figures in reference to Spain, taken from Kohl's Handbuch der vergleichenden Statistik, which may be of interest at the present moment, in so far as they will enable the reader to form a clear judgment as to the real condition of Spain and the obstacles to her regeneration.

The balance-sheet of Spain is one of the most extravagant, quite in disproportion with her revenues, and resulting in a fearful accumulation of debts. The estimate for the financial year 1866-67, reducing all the figures to pounds sterling (millions and decimals) shows an ordinary expense of twenty-one million pounds sterling, and an extraordinary expense of 6,623, viz.:

The Queen, millions, £0-493; debt, 4-582; life rents, 1-573; justice and worship, 2-120 (including clergy, 1-765); war, 4-204; marine, 1-167; interior, 1-074; industry, 1-079; finance, 5-080 (including collection of taxes, 2-956, lottery, 1-783) &c.

The total expenses are rather less than those of Germany or Austria. The salary of the Queen is more than that of the Queen of England.

The receipts are made up as follows:—

Ground rent, millions, £4-300; customs, 2-830; excise, 2; stamp, 1-268; tobacco, 3-940; lottery, 2-322; salt, 1-230, &c.

The revenues of Spain have increased greatly during the last twenty years; but they have been unable to meet the constantly increasing wants, so that, notwithstanding all extraordinary resources, each year has closed with a greater deficit.

The public money was recklessly squandered, and, instead of introducing a wise system of economy, the Government continued under embarrassment. Constant recourse was had to the confiscation of church property, for which even the consent of the Pope was obtained in 1859: all was of no avail. The Government passed to the confiscation of parish properties, estates belonging to public and charitable institutions, state and parish forests, and during the campaign against Morocco in 1859, even the savings bank deposits were seized upon. The sale of church property had produced in 1865 the sum of £71-984 millions, and only 32-630 remained then unsold.

It is evident that if this system had been continued, Spain would have found herself destitute in a few years, with nothing to sell, and without credit abroad. For aught we know this may even now be the case.

The late Government has left the country with a debt of £200,000,000, and thus raised her amongst first rate European powers. Inquiring into the history of the debt, we find that the eldest portion of it dates as far back as the conquest of Granada, and that at the death of Philip V. it amounted to millions, 8: In 1780 the country was flooded with 8 millions of paper money, which became depreciated in 1806 to 51 per cent, 1808 to 28 per cent, and in 1811 to 4 per cent of its nominal value. At the accession of Joseph Napoleon in 1808 the debt amounted to millions, 72: the war of independence cost millions, 45; and at the restoration in 1819 we find the debt amounting to millions, £117-350, and in 1820 to £13-610. However, two thirds of the bonds were belonging to religious corporations, which were abolished and the debts thereby reduced to 52-730. The reign of Ferdinand added to this 21-810. The war of succession (for Isabella) cost 40, and in 1865 we find the debt amounting to 180-976, and at present it may be estimated at rather over millions, £200, of which five eighths are belonging to the reign of Isabella II.

How dear indeed Isabella must be to the Spanish people, long to be remembered by them. She has been overthrown, as a natural consequence of her reckless and outrageous conduct, and of public opinion in Europe, reacting upon Spain. It would be a mistake to suppose that the system by which she was upheld, has been vanquished by her. The power has passed from royal absolutism into the hands of a vain and ambitious nobility. The people, as a general rule, are ignorant, poor, and superstitious, and cannot be expected to be ready for those patriotic sacrifices which the regeneration of the country demands. The best men even may be powerless to effect a regeneration, if the people are not willing to throw off the yoke of ignorance and superstition, and become conscious of their natural rights and liberties. The only hope is that the general current of public opinion in Europe will act strong enough upon the rulers of Spain, whoever they may be, to prevent their returning into the former path, but also oblige them, 'bon gré mal gré,' to take that path which the enlightenment of our age will prescribe to them.

Spain has progressed much in trade and commerce, but clearly not by the merit of her Government, which has rather done all that could be devised, by a protective and prohibitive system, to hinder the development of her resources. The enlightenment and progress of Europe, which has penetrated the remotest corners of the earth, has even diffused the darkness which so long has hung over Spain, and vainly have her rulers attempted to resist the current.

The formidable shocks which Spain has experienced since the commencement of the present century, particularly the alienation of mortmain, have opened up at least a part of her rich resources.

Nobility and Clergy have for centuries possessed the wealth and the soil of Spain. In 1787 the number of nobles (males) was counted at 479,653, the number of monks at 77,665, and the secular clergy at 69,366, whereas, there were only 262,932 artisans 34,030 merchants, &c. Of 4,364 towns, only 1275, and of 12,732 villages, only 4,233 were under the jurisdiction of the

crown. In 1820 were counted 3,005 convents, and in the province of Galicia, two-thirds of the ground was possessed by the Clergy, in the whole of Spain, perhaps, about one-third. The revenue of the Clergy amounted to eleven millions; that of the State to 4,000,000. In 1855 there existed still 1000 convents. The number of ecclesiastics has diminished in strong contrast with former statements. The census of 1857 shows 43,661, and that of 1864 only 39,431, including former members of religious orders, 11,110 holding parsonages, and 3,030 without office. The number of noblemen in 1856 was still 1,359 grandees, including 75 dukes, 516 counts, 647 marquises, 65 viscounts, 55 barons, besides 585 generals. An enormous amount of ground is still possessed by the nobles, and held in bad cultivation. The Clergy, although despoiled of their riches, are still predominant.

Education is still neglected and good schools are wanting. Notwithstanding a pompous display of figures showing a total number of 24,353 schools with 1,101,529 alumni (including, however, a great portion of children under six years of age), and 10 universities with 9,704 students in 1865 (including Madrid 4,194), we meet, on the other hand with the startling fact that in 1860 of the total number of inhabitants were able to read and write:

Males, 2,414,015;
Females, 715,900;
Able to read, but not to write:
Males, 316,557;
Females, 359,221;
Unable to read or write:
Males, 5,034,545;
Females, 6,802,846.

Spain, once the mistress of half the Continent of America, and the richest amongst nations has reversed her position. Her foreign commerce is actually less than that of little Switzerland, that great little Republic whose free trade system has made her rich and great amongst nations.

"Sic transit gloria mundi."
MERCATOR.

THE WAR IN THE NORTH.

The *Nacion's* intelligent war correspondent Don Manuel A. de Mattos writes from Palmas, under date of November 20:—

Yesterday a 'reconnaissance' took place by land and water, both on the Chaco and on the Paraguayan side, to ascertain the truth of a report that Angostura had been evacuated. At 4.30 a.m. a division of ironclads, including the Herval, Mariz de Barros, Colombo, Cabral, Pinary, under the orders of Captain Mamiéde, opened fire on the enemy's positions, approaching them as near as possible, the Pinary going close under the batteries. The Paraguayans replied with fourteen guns, and the engagement lasted till 9.45.

The Mariz de Barros, Cabral, and Pinary were considerably damaged, but the Colombo suffered most, and had one officer and five men put hors de combat.

The wooden ships Belmonte and Pedro Alfonso, took part in this 'reconnaissance,' and the Admiral assisted too.

At the same time the forces in the Chaco advanced as far as the Arroyo Villeta, which they crossed, and after exploring the ground left 1,600 men protected by the ironclads moored above Angostura. This force is to be augmented. The Marquis de Caxias proceeded to the spot this morning at six o'clock, and has not yet returned, two p.m.

The 'reconnaissance' made in front of Las Palmas was of much less importance, since the marshy ground was an insuperable obstacle to the advance of the troops. It appears to me that in this there is some deep manoeuvre, because I cannot help suspecting that there are passes in these marshes, which are pretended to be ignored, in order to induce the enemy to uncover or leave undefended certain particular positions. Time will tell.

On the 16th Colonel Baez returned from his expedition to Misiones, having captured all the garrison of San Ignacio [30 leagues from Tacuaras], consisting of a corporal and eleven men. The forces under Colonel Baez consisted of sixty cavalry men, badly mounted. This gives an insight into the vaunted colossal power of Lopez in the interior of the country.

The above-mentioned corporal declares that there are small garrisons in the villages Santa Maria, Santa Rosa, and Santa Teresa, and that all the families that have been withdrawn from the coast of the Paraguay river, are concentrated in Capucu (long grass), near the banks of the Tebicuarí, where they are protected by two regiments of cavalry.

There are also small garrisons in Quindihí, Caquiquibó, Taquerpechua, Tnyupubi, and other small places, whose 'guaraní' names are not easy to remember.

All these garrisons are well attended to by Lopez, who recommends to them the greatest economy and watchfulness, and sends them regularly copies of the 'Semanario' to keep them informed of what is going on. These copies of the 'Semanario,' as the Law tablets among the Jews, are deposited in a special ark after being read aloud, and when they reach to number 10, are

returned to the 'levites,' who forward them back to the supreme magistrate, perhaps for the purpose eventually of being used in the manufacture of cart-ridges.

The French gunboat has left, having been as unfortunate as the English. Lopez only gave up the French subjects he chose, keeping the rest, (and among them the Secretary of the Legation) prisoners, for complicity in the 'anti-national revolution.' The gunboat took away ten frenchmen and two french women—one a milliner, and the other a cook.

The Italian gunboat is still here, and is moored in the rear of the wooden squadron taking in coal. Whether she will proceed to Asuncion or go back to Buenos Ayres is not known. The sanitary state on board of her is not satisfactory, and her commander applied to the Brazilian authorities for medical assistance, which was at once granted.

I am this instant informed that Gen. Argollo is laid up with sickness—which is not wonderful, as the Chaco is very unhealthful.

Colonel Baez has received orders to join the army at Palmas, and Colonel Correa remains in Tacuaras with the Correntino division.

The following further interesting particulars are extracted from the columns of the 'Republica':—

'The siege of the "little Humaita" "drags its slow length along," and according to some croakers, will continue to do so for some months. The natural difficulties of the ground are so great, that time above all things is necessary to overcome them.

The commanders of foreign gunboats who have dined with the Marshal President of Paraguay say that nothing was wanting at his table, and that there was abundance of sherry and French wines.

It is remarkable that since the arrival of the Allies in front of Villeta the only operation undertaken has been the 'reconnaissance' of the 1st Oct.; but this was only made for the purpose of ascertaining the position of the enemy, in order that the preliminary operations, which have for their object the getting at the enemy's rear, might be commenced.

Until the result of these operations has been seen, it is absurd to attribute to the strength of the place, or the force at the disposal of Lopez, the duration of the siege at Villeta.

The enormous difficulties to be surmounted in getting through the Chaco, where every step had to be hewn through brushwood, and a road made over marshes and quagmires, and on the left side the great distance over which the troops had to pass, prove that it is not the resistance of the enemy which had so long delayed our advance.

On the 16th a 'reconnaissance' took place under the command of an Argentine General.

About a thousand of the enemy appeared, but they contented themselves with lying in ambush among the trees, and "potting" our soldiers as they advanced.

The artillery could not be brought into action, but the cavalry made a charge, and took prisoners an officer, a sergeant, and nine soldiers, who have made, it is said, important declarations.

The cavalry in returning got into a marsh, and lost eight or nine soldiers, picked off by the Paraguayan sharpshooters.

Twenty-five carts were seen the other day to leave the Paraguayan lines, and further observations showed that several of their temporary buildings were in process of demolition. It is therefore supposed Lopez intends evacuating Villeta, and the movement which the allies are preparing to make in his rear will probably have the effect of making him decide on that course.

"No news is good news," as says the old proverb, and as there is no news about the cholera, it may be taken for granted that it has disappeared—so in fact it has, and the health of the army could not be better than it is at this moment.

THE STANDARD MUSEUM.

Yesterday, thanks to the kind attention of an English gentleman, our museum was enriched by one of the largest Jacaré's skins ever seen in Buenos Ayres. We invite our subscribers to inspect the skin of this hideous reptile; it measures 7 feet, weighs 15 lb., and is in good preservation. It is was caught on the Chaco bank of the Paraguay river, close to the bitter Angostura battery. The following remarks about the South American Jacaré, taken from the American encyclopædia, will prove interesting:—

The Jacaré, *crocodilus sclerops*. This is the alligator of all tropical America, particularly numerous in Brazil. Its head is more elongated than that of the North American alligator, the sides converging toward the snout so as to form nearly an isosceles triangle. The bones of the skull have a rough scabrous appearance, as if diseased; and the orbits of the eye are surrounded by prominent rims of bone, connected by a ridge between the orbits, constituting, together, the resemblance of a pair of spectacles, whence its name. It grows to a very large size

attaining even to 18 feet, its length being above 8 times that of the head. It never attacks men, or even dogs, whether on land, or in passing rivers, unless they be in the neighborhood of its nest; nor does it then prey on the carcasses, feeding only on fish and water-fowl. These are the several American alligators, as distinguished from the crocodiles of the old world, as yet characterized and classified. The bony armor of all the species is their protection against all enemies, even against the artificial weapons of man, being proof against the rifle ball, which can only take effect when it strikes the eye, or the unarmed skin on the belly and about the insertion of the forelegs. The construction of this armor, however, prevents them from turning rapidly, when on dry land, so that their pursuit is easily avoided. Their flesh, and even their eggs, although both have a strong musky flavor, are said to be both wholesome and nutritious. The American alligators have neither their alien protector bird, the spur-winged dodo, nor their characteristic enemy, the ichneumon, which protect or assail their congeners, the crocodiles of the Nile. The hideous aspect, disgusting habits, abominable smell, and odious roar of these vast reptiles, added to the repulsive and awful character of the regions they inhabit, have rendered them objects of undue apprehension. They are, in fact, rather subjects for the antipathy and disgust, than for the fears of man.

EDITOR'S TABLE.

The increase in the value of land in the neighborhood of Barracas is truly marvellous. We have heard of an offer made for a small property on the Riachuelo of Barracas, near the Paso de Burgos, opposite Mr. Anderson's Saladero, at the rate of \$300,000 for every square having frontage to the river. Two years ago this property would not have fetched \$20,000, and yet, 'mirabile dictu,' we are informed the owners refuse this brilliant offer.

Two days ago, when the steamer came in from the Uruguay upwards of forty passengers got into a whaleboat, and the breeze being favorable, reached the head of the mole in about ten minutes. Here the owner of the boat had the impudence to charge \$5.1 a head all round! Under the circumstances of the case, the fare appeared so preposterous that an English gentleman, who was among the passengers, remonstrated in rather strong terms. This had only the effect of making the boatman lose his temper, and burst out in abuse and uncalled-for language. Thereupon, our countryman happening to remember that the port regulations imposed a fine for these regulations, appealed at once to the ayudantes of the Capitania, who not only applied the fine of \$100, but ordered the boatman to be locked up for twenty-four hours. If all those who have reason to complain of abuses were to follow the praiseworthy example of the gentleman above alluded to, one might hear fewer complaints of the extortions and insolence of boatmen and changadores.

A serious fracas took place the other day in the department of Minas, Banda Oriental, between a travelling party and Col. Carabajal, the Chief of Police of that district. It appears that the party in question, in passing through a village, amused themselves by making the most discordant noises, and several of them being itinerant dealers in pots and pans, availed themselves of their stock in trade to add to the din. The unsophisticated rustics, not appreciating this sort of thing, ventured to send one of their number to remonstrate; his reception was warmer than he expected, for he returned to his companions with four pistol-shot wounds. The Chief of Police then interfered, but, on attempting to take the party prisoners, they resisted, and a general scuffle ensued, in which several were wounded. No further particulars are as yet known about the affair, but there can be no doubt that the blame rests with the noisy, and very probably drunken travellers.

Great preparations are being made in Lujan, to celebrate the festival of the patron saint of that town, on the 8th of next month. Governor Castro, who had been officially invited by the Municipality, has replied, stating that his public engagements prevent him from accepting this invitation.

Dr. Burmeister, the talented Director of the Public Museum, will shortly undertake an exploring voyage to Patagonia, the Government having granted, at his request, the necessary sum to defray the expenses of the journey. Dr. Burmeister's object is to collect animal specimens from that part of the Republic, as well as antidiuvian remains, in which it is expected he will be very successful. We wish our distinguished friend pleasant times and good speed.

Notwithstanding the great number of steamers that ply between this port and Montevideo, there was not a single arrival from the sister capital yesterday. This wanton disregard for the comfort and interests of the public reflects but little credit on our riverine navigation companies.

The Flamsteed leaves to-day for Liverpool, via Montevideo and Rio de Janeiro, with mails and passengers. It is expected she will reach Rio before the departure from that port of the Royal Mail packet for Southampton. The arrival is reported in town of Colonel Machado, who was lately removed from the command of the southern frontier, and replaced by Colonel Julio Campos. It is stated that previous to his departure he disbanded all the forces that had served under his orders, both the National Guards and the forces of the line, leaving the frontier totally unprotected. Such a proceeding would be such an unjustifiable act of mean spite that we trust, for Colonel Machado's sake, to hear the statement contradicted.

The Panama "Star and Herald" says:—"Colonel Church, an American gentleman, is at present in Panama, en route for the United States. He has just concluded a journey from Buenos Ayres to the Pacific coast, across Bolivia, one of the most arduous passages of the South American Continent. Colonel Church is travelling as representative of the 'New York Herald.'"

We learn from the "Telegrafo Marítimo," that Messrs. R. Gomez, J. Quevedo, A. Berro, J. Jones, and the Baron Mauá, have submitted to the Montevideo Government, for approval, the statutes of a new Gas company, for which \$1,200,000 have been already subscribed. Baron Mauá guarantees, with his private fortune an annual interest of 9 per cent, if in three years the dividends do not reach a higher figure.

Yesterday was a great day for the "Standard" Museum. Besides the interesting acquisition alluded to in another column, the extensive photographic gallery that forms part of it received a valuable addition in a collection of splendid photographs of Thorwaldsen celebrated bas-reliefs in the Copenhagen Museum reproduced by Mr. Holtzweissig, who has lately opened his photographic studio at 91 Calle San Martin. All true lovers of Art should pay a visit to this studio if they wish to see to what perfection the art of photography has been brought. Mr. Holtzweissig exhibited his works in the Paris Exhibition, and was very favorably noticed, particularly for his *cartes de visite*. His charges are very moderate, and, coupled with the ability of execution, ought to secure him a large patronage.

We notice the arrival in this city of Mr. Girard, who has acquired a wide reputation as an adept in chiromancy or the art and science of reading the lines of the hand. He is shortly to open consulting rooms in Calle Florida.

The National Government, by decree dated 24th inst., has cashiered Gen. Caceres, for his open act of rebellion in not presenting himself before the court martial, as he had been summoned to do. The National authorities are by the same decree ordered to apprehend said General within the limits of the territory of the Republic.

An empty plot of ground in the Plaza Constitución, thirty-four varas by forty, was knocked down yesterday by Mr. Seria for the extraordinarily high price of 121,500 dollars. The purchaser is Mr. Berrotaran.

The sale we announced yesterday of a lot of wool from Magdalena at \$2 dollars did not take effect, because at the time of receiving the wool it was found not to fulfil the conditions of the sale. This leaves the supremacy of price up to the date to that obtained by Messrs. Bradley & Peyredieu a few days ago of \$1 dollars.

It is said that the Fomento Montevideoano Company is projecting the construction of a tramway—or 'trenway'—between the capital and the picturesque new town of Atahualpa, and that the materials for it are shortly to be sent for from Europe.

The Tribuna announces the capture by the Custom House authorities of a schooner loaded with smuggled goods. No further particulars are given.

Our talented young friend, D. Domingo Frias, was called to the Bar the day before yesterday. We felicitate him sincerely on this occasion.

The Government of Santa Fé has ordered that an expeditionary force, composed of 300 men, under the orders of Colonel Silvestre Hernandez, well armed and well mounted, shall march against the Indians of the Chaco.

The Comisario General de Guerra has rejected a thousand blouses and a thousand pair of trousers, furnished by contract, on account of their being inferior to the sample upon which the contract was made. We are glad to notice these repeated proofs of the honesty that is being established by the new Government in all the branches of the administration.

The great tidal wave, which committed such ravages on the West Coast on the 13th of August, was felt throughout the Australian Colonies one day later very severely, though we have heard of no serious damage being suffered there. An earthquake was also experienced at the same time in some parts of the colonies.

It is said that the Prince of Wales contemplates a visit to the African continent, and that, should His Royal Highness carry out his intention, he will most likely visit Egypt and the Cataracts of the Nile.

