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REVIEW FOR EUROPE.

The most important event of the fortnight has been the closing of the Extraordinary Session of Congress. As a Parthian arrow, the honourable legislators before breaking up held a secret sitting and voted a Government bill of 10,000,000$ gold for armaments. As invariably happens in the Argentine Congress the Budget Bill for 1896 was voted in a gallop and nobody for the moment knows how the figures stand, not even the Finance Minister of the Nation. We may, however, safely assume that the Government estimates have been increased and that the Budget of 1896 will be the heaviest that ever weighed on Argentina. We have a conviction that the Ordinary and Extraordinary expenditure of 1896 will run into two hundred millions. The Revenue may yield, with a deal of squeezing, about 140,000,000 $ m/n the balance must be supplied by credit.

People abroad may well be amazed at the prospect of such enormous expenditure, but the causes must be familiar to all. This country has had pending with Chile a Limits Question for the last two generations, since 1840, when Chile considered her Southern frontier to be somewhere about Puerto Montt and her Northern this side of Bolivia. Since then she has managed to extend her frontier South to the Straits of Magellan right into the Atlantic and Cape Horn, and to the North right into the heart of Perú, swallowing up all the Bolivian sea-board. In 1893 Argentina signed a treaty with the Chilian Government whereby all differences were supposed to be removed. Argentina resigned all her titles to ports on the Pacific and Chile acknowledged the Argentine claim that the frontier line should run along the main ridge of the Andes; everything west of that line should be Chilian, everything East, including parts of rivers running into Pacific, should be Argentine. Since then Chile, at the instigation of Barros Arana who opposed that treaty, went back on her word and claims a "divortia aquarum" as frontier line. Argentines will not accept this and are preparing in earnest to resist. There is no begging the question, and ex-President Pellegrini proclaimed it loudly enough in the Senate—The Andes or War!

Foreign readers need not therefore, be amazed to learn that the votes for armament in the last twelve months would suffice to cover the full service on the foreign debt for several years; nor need they marvel if the Argentine War Office is preparing to drill one hundred thousand National Guards during the winter months, nor need they stare if the whole country breathes a bellicose ferment that can only be appeased by a frank recognition by Chile of Argentine rights. If the New Chilian Minister of Foreign Affairs, Sr. Guerrero, succeeds in convincing his colleagues in the Cabinet and that Cabinet holds out, there is evrey prospect of a satisfactory settlement. But if Barros Arana is supported by the Government and Sr. Guerrero resign, a critical moment will be at hand.

The whole country is now in the full swing of the busy season. Hundreds of steamers are loading here, at La Plata Rosario, San Nicolas, etc, etc, maize, wheat, wool, skins, and all kinds of produce. Never before was the production of the country so gigantic. The movement in the Buenos Aires docks is extraordinary and the country is forging ahead at a wonderful pace. On all sides one witnesses the existence of the greatest prosperity—evidenced in the exports, published in our columns—the increased traffic returns of tramways and railways, in a rise in real-estate, and a general hum of healthy business all over the republic. These undeniable facts account for the stationary condition of the gold premium which, under other less favorable circumstances, would have risen one hundred points with all the alarms of war and heavy extra expenditure in armaments. As matters stand, the premium on gold is weak at 230 % and shows a falling tendency. Whilst exports are brisk, imports are dull. The supply of exchange is heavy and takers are few. Gold is flowing to these shores from England and confidence is reviving. The settlement of the railway guarantee revives hopes of credit abroad and there are reasonable expectations that European capital will be forthcoming enable to the Government to meet all the present extraordinary expenditure.

Exchange is steady at following rates:—

On London—48 ¼ d.

On France—5.09 fcs.

On Belgium—5.10 fcs.

On Germany—4.12 ½ mks.

THE INTERNAL TAXES.

In view of the more or less stationary condition of the National Revenue from customs dues, the chief aim of Argentine Finance Ministers of late years has been to seek new resources in the levying of internal taxes. Apart from the Customs gold revenue the Government always relied on a paper revenue from land tax, stamps, licences, water rates, lease and sale of public lands, railways, Post-Office, telegraphs, etc., but all this has been found far from adequate to meet the growing requirements of the Treasury.

Deficits in the budget succeed each other with yearly religiosity; the time-honored excuse for such financial irregularity is the uncertainty of relations with our neighbors, calling for extraordinary expenditure in armaments at an awkward moment when the country has forfeited its credit and cannot attempt to launch a loan in the great money-markets of the world.

Under these painful circumstances both Congress and the Government are agreed to squeeze out of the people in the shape of excise or internal taxes the millions needed to redress the balance in the budget. Up to the present the effort has not been crowned with success; but the growth of the excise figures warrant a hope that before long financial ingenuity will manage to make excise one of the chief sources of national revenue. We are only watching the birth of this new taxation, and it already bids fair to give the Government this year over 15,000,000$ m/n. Our beer, our wine, our matches, our tobacco, our alcohols, are now well within the grasp of this new tax-collector, and as the Government is spending more money than ever, buying more arms and more ironclads, we are at liberty to suppose that Minister Romero is now burning midnight oil to find some new dodges and tricks to swell the revenue.

In 1894 these internal taxes gave 87,500$ gold and 7,295,000$ paper: in 1895 the gold item fell to 5000$, but the paper figures rose to 9,500,000$ m/n. The returns are classified as follows:—

	1894		1895	
	$ gold	$ paper	$ gold	$ paper
Alcohol..	—	5,225,332	—	5,435,026
Matches.	—	1,333,770	—	1,687,389
Banks...	87,206	236,217	4,619	75,042
Beer....	—	315,276	—	415,267
Do(small)	—	40,064	—	12,380
Wines...	—	123,358	—	159,502
Cards...	—	520	—	4,139
Tobacco.	—	—	—	1.623,382
J. Stock Co's...	255	—	—	—
Interest.	—	6,956	—	57,925
Fines...	—	3,618	—	11,231
	87,457	7,295,000	4,619	9,481,000

The figures of 1895 do not include the Joint-Stock Companies, the revenue from that source passing to the National Stamp Office; we may state here, however, that this company tax produced in 1895 214,000 dollars.

If we study the above figures we see that alcohol is more or less stationary, but the full brunt of the increase in the tax, no less than 100%, if we are not mistaken, will be felt this year. The increase in matches need not be traced to increase of population or great increase of consumption, but to discovery of a big fraud. The new feature in 1895 was the so-called Tobacco-tax; it should be dubbed a tax on tobacco, cigars and cigarettes, as the two latter are now generally made of potato and cabbage leaves steeped in nicotine or valertian and seasoned for the Porteño palate. This tobacco tax gave in the few months during which it was enforced at the end of 1895 over 1 ½ million, and is expected to give four millions in 1896—we very much doubt it.

With the figures of 1895 before us we doubt much if Minister Romero will squeeze out of 1896 the millions that he needs for his monstrous Budget, and he will have to fall back on that unfathomable revenue resource—Leyes Especiales and Recursos Extraordinarios—which may mean anything, from a foreign loan to an issue of Funded Bonds or Cedulas.

TERRITORY OF SANTA CRUZ.

Mr Alsina, in his interesting little pamphlet, gives the following about this new English district in the far South:—

The rearing of live stock of all kinds has already attained a considerable state of development in the country that we are describing; and the fields that until recently were the exclusive dominion of the wild beast, to-day abound in sheep and cows, apart from others, such as goats and pigs, which altogether represent a large sum of money. It may be said that the progress of the Government of Santa Cruz dates from a very short time ago. At the end of 1886, according to official investigation of that date, the number of sheep was 9,800; the cows were not more than 3,000; horses and mares were considered insufficient for the necessities of the very small traffic and other rural services of those days. What changes have come about during the last nine years! In a ringle department of the territory, that of Rio Gallegos; there are at present about 180,000 cross-Lincoln sheep, in that of Santa Cruz 25,000 animals of all kinds; in that of San Julian 9.000, in that of Deseado 13,000.

What better argument could be produced to show the excellence of the Patagonian fields, formerly so much deprecated and feared on account their wearying solitudes? Which of the other southern territories has progressed so rapidly, without the Argentine Government having had to spend enormous sums?

It is a case of spontaneous and useful immigration worthy of attracting attention, although the proportions be small. Until a short time ago, the southern extremity of the continent was considered by Europeans as an inhabitable desert. Terrible adventures with the Tehuelche Indians were related; and in speaking of the climate of Patagonia the words "Siberia" and "Glacial" were among the geographic fantasies. The Argentine explorers, from Moreno to Fontana, have contributed in no small degree to the raising of the veil of mysteries that covered these lands, and claim for progress and civilization these rich regions of the future. To-day new fields are being opened out for foreign energy and capital. Santa Cruz is a territory of great promise; it is the country for sheep-breeders and miners as we said in 1879 (La Patagonia Austral, Buenos Aires).

The principal export is wool. In the year 1890, at Port Gallegos alone, nearly 30,000 kils were loaded and sold in Liverpool and London at the rate of 6, 7 and 9 pence the pound. In the same year about 800 quillangos and 500 kls of ostrich feathers were sent to Buenos Ayres. During the years 1888-1890 the territory had exported to Punta Arenas about 2000 cows and more than 1000 horses and mules The cows fetch from 20 to 25 dollars each in the adjoining Chilian territory. The horses are sold with greater facility, and for an animal two years old, healthy and tamed, 80 to 100 dollars are obtained. The same horse would be worth 18 dollars in Buenos Ayres.

The prices of live stock, generally speaking, are as follows in Rio Gallegos:—

	$ paper.
A milch cow..	35
A steer of 300 kils....	30
A Lincoln sheep.....	6
A wether....	5
A tame horse.....	100
A tame mare.....	30
A mule.....	50

List of the estancieros in the territory of Santa Cruz:—

Name.	Hectares occupied.
Victoriano Rivera Jose and Pedro Monts	40,000
Harman Eberhard	40,000
William Halliday	22,000
Saturnino Garcia	5,000
Victoriano Vasquez	5,000
Juan Saldivia and N. Barreyro	10,000
Wm. Clark	10,000
Otto Segers	20,000
Cipriano Garcia	5,000
Joseph Guillaume	10,000
Auguste Guillaume	30,000
Thomson and Patterson	20,000
Remigio Ortiz	7,500
Woodman and Redman	12,000
Celestino Bousquet	20,000
John Mac Rae	—
Fred Perk	20,000
Manuel Coronel	2,500
Hamilton & Saunders	20,000
Isaac Rich	20,000
S. Reynal	40,000
Pedro Urbino	10,000
Henry Jamorson	10,000
Herbert Felton	40,000
John Rudd	16,000
Jose Montes	17,500

N.B.—With the exception of the lessees Saturnino Garcia. Victorino Vasquez, Cipriano Garcia, and Isaac Rich, in the department of Santa Cruz, the whole of these belong to the department of Rio Gallegos.

THE DARK CONTINENT.

Although the telegrams from Europe convey the impression that the Transvaal difficulty is, as regards the Boers, arranged, the sting of the serpent that so suddenly sprung from the arid, burning sands of Africa is still felt.

There was something so mysteriously sudden in this Transvaal rumpus that even the wisest statesmen will look with suspicion on a state of affairs which, without a moments' warning, so abruptly convulsed the world; and if the wisdom and prudence of the triumphant Boer in delivering up Jameson and his fillibusters to the British authorities has allayed the public anxiety, the injudicious zeal of Queen Victoria's grandson has awakened a political distrust pregnant with the most serious consequences.

To properly understand the possible sequences of this Transvaal question it is necessary to read back, and study well what has been going on in Africa within the last decade or two. The partition of the Dark Continent by the European powers is now almost complete.

Of the vast area of 11,900,000 square miles which comprise the African Continent only 2,500,000 square miles remain yet to be accounted for. Africa may be considered to-day as completely under the the European system, and forms new colonies of the various European nations, reaching from the Cape of Good Hope to Cairo. Within the last 20 years France has increased her African possessions eightfold, England seven fold, if not a trifle more. The Congo Free State is of a million square miles and is Belgian. Germany and Italy have for the first time in their history assumed serious African responsibilities, and all this partition has been effected and the territory acquired by proclamations, and carried out by the chartographer according to the degrees of latitude and longitude: the surveyor, the engineer, the mining expert, and the prospector have followed in the wake.

It must always be remembered that railways, steamers, gold mines and colonies create not only political but physical problems. Africa is not to-day what it was 40 years ago, and each of its subdivisions forms a new kind of integral part of the European systems with the two Dutch Republics, and the huge Congo Free State as neutral ground for competing states. Africa is a region on of undeveloped resources and of unknown possibilities, and we have yet to see its potentialities as a moral factor in the politics of Europe.

From the remotest ages Africa has always exercised mysterious influences, and has thrown over Europe a species of spell or magnetism. At one period of the world's history she dominated European thought. She was regarded by the ancients as the "Arida nutrix Leonum," nevertheless, she proved herself the matrix of a mine of thought, teaching, and knowledge. At all times this wondrous ancient continent has sent from her burning soil to the colder torpid European North some burning thought in religion, some new philosophy, some ray of knowledge from her clear and starlit skies, so much so that it has now reached a proverb "That there is always something new from Africa," and as it has been beautifully remarked by the historian. "Africa, though often conquered in rude "war, has overcome her conquerors. To "Greece herself, the intellectual Mistress "of Rome, she gave arts, letters and Cadmeian lore. To Rome she gave, as Dean "Milman reminds us, the system of Latin "Christianity; glimpses of power flash "from her inert mass, the power indeed of "thought and intellect, with intermittent "gleams, shooting upwards to the skies. "as if her sands and deserts, heated "sevenfold, were a forge at which the "African Titans worked."

The partition of Poland was not more complete than is the partition of Africa, a continent which up to yesterday was only considered useful to breed lions, tigers, etc., for the Zoological gardens, and slaves for Europe but all that is changed; now we must lay aside our Bible, our Homer and our Herodotus to understand the present state of affairs in the dark continent, every inch of which is coveted by European nations. The valley of the Nile is a contending place of European interests. Algiers may be regarded as a part of France, and it remains yet to be seen what France will yet do with the 2,300.000 square miles over which she holds sway. She is supreme in Tunis and Tripoli to the East, Morocco to the West. Southward there is French Congo and the Congo free state. Italy is over head and ears into Abyssinia, where the Russians are now looking for a foot-hold. England holds the main avenues of trade in the dark continent, from the rock of Abyla to the Cape of Good Hope, and in the plenitude of her, ocean sway she girdles Africa, and may be regarded as the lineal successor of the once great African sea power, Carthage, and this Boerish question has at once brought to the front the strong arm of her navy and the unquestioned grasp she has of Africa by virtue of her ruling the waves. From Gibraltar to Simons bay she holds as it were all European powers who have colonies in Africa in the hollow of her hand, and her African Empire is the strongest in the world, since it rests upon her navy. This Boer question, which has caused so much alarm, may in the end be productive of great good, since it attracts the attention of the civilised world to the frightful state of affairs in Ashantee and other parts where, within a few days sail of London, the barbarian monarchs sell young girls by the thousand at five shillings a head and decapitate the fathers to make a holiday for the bloody ruler.

THE SECRET SESSION.

The Ordinary and Extraordinary Session of the Congress of 1895 has come to an end after six months of most laborious work, of most important and variegated discussion. It was born in broad day-light, but was cradled in mystery, and now closes the chapter in secrecy. International politics, Government appointments, administrative reforms, votes for armament, nay, the very financial bills were discussed in secret sittings—why? Can it be that the little black cloud on the Western horizon involves in its shadows the whole machinery of Government and legislation? It must be so, and we must frankly confess that if this Chilian bug-bear is to be blamed for the secrecy of Congress sittings and for enormous expenditure on war material, it must also be blessed for the salutary reform that we see carried out not only in every department of the Government, but more especially for its remarkable welding power in internal politics: a magician's wand seems to have been swept over the political ferment of local factions, and all Argentines are to-day united shoulder to shoulder, animated by the axiom—Unity is the strength.

Roquistas, Radicals, and Mitristas have shaken hands over the benches of this Congress, which will be recorded in our legislative annals as the Secret Congress—all local squabbles were stifled, and with unanimity they spurred the apathetic Cabinet of Uriburu into action, upsetting a War Minister, making a clean sweep in the War and Navy departments, and thundering against a finance Minister who in a moment of excessive financial caution tried to stem the current of expenditure in army organization.

For once the Congress of 1895 has answered the expectations of the people, and the Deputies and Senators can withdraw to their homes on the plains or in the mountains cheered by the echo of popular applause; eve London joins in the chorus, for one of the transcendental measures of the Secret Congress is the settlement of the Railway Guarantees and the removal thereby of the chief stumbling block to the credit of Argentina in the great money market of the world. Public opinion also triumphed in the defeat of the Government Bill for the Unification of National and Provincial Foreign Debts, in spite of secret sittings and Ministerial disclosures to overcome the opposition of Senators and Deputies. The adverse vote of the Senate saved the Nation from the onerous burden of scores of millions of fresh indebtedness.

The Secret Congress may also claim the credit of having turned a half-hearted, shilly-shallying Government into one of action and energy, in harmony with the aspirations of the country and the views of the legislators. As the Session closes and the doors of the Hall are locked, one sees with satisfaction that the Government, the Congress, and the People are pledged to one policy, to one wish, from La Quiaca to Cape Horn—peace and union—probably a solitary instance in the history of the Argentine Republic.

This Secret Congress has voted away millions—how much, nobody knows: It is public that the most onerous budget ever presented by any finance minister has been sanctioned in a gallop, and whatever reduction has been made in these estimates is not due to legislative initiative, but to the Government. Congress never retrenches, it always increases expenditure, and until the National Accountant draws up the figures we shall not know how the Budget stands, but of one thing we may feel certain—the Government estimates have been increased. As to secret votes for armament, the figures can only be conjectured. In our private opinion, the Secret Congress has authorized during the six months an extra expenditure for war preparations to the amount of at least five millions sterling. The very last act of Congress was to vote in secret two millions sterling for new war-ships—in this final vote and final sitting is condensed the whole history and spirit of the 1895 session.

FLORES ISLAND AGAIN.

The Yellow flag is again hoisted in the River Plate, and the lazaretto bells toll on Flores Island. It is to be hoped in the short health term that has intervened since the sorrows and horrors of last years quarantine that some few reforms have been introduced, some better hotel arrangements on that island perfected, and some less scheming system for the exploitation of passengers adopted. Year in, year out, we have always at this season the same eternal quarantine scare; and spite of all our experiences, we see not the slightest improvement, or even an attempt at improvement on this far famed St. Helena of the River Plate. Passengers and others who have gone through the hardships of Flores Island quarantine seem to forget them "in toto" when their time has expired and they have escaped from the island.

The first victims this year are our friends on board the Danube. entered yesterday in Montevideo, and pushed back to the island for eight days:

Infelices!

Eight days' quarantine on Flores island!

Eight days under a roasting tropical South American sun!

Eight days in a Flores island sheebang!

Eight days, ten in a room, and three in a bed, without pillows, and sheets. Heaven save the mark!

Eight days in any of Dante's worst hells!

With what inspired truth has the immortal Florentine Bard, when trudging through his own Flores Island, said:

Through me the way is to the city dolent;
Through me the way is to the eternal dole.

Verily this Flores Lazareto is an eternal dole, and until some indignant scientist passenger writhing under the despotism of the barbarian civilization that upholds the yellow flag over that island. springs a mine and blows into smithereens the whole quarantine establishment, we shall never reach the reform which for so many years it has called for.

Before us is a beautifully printed book called the "Anuario Estadistico de la Banda Oriental", just published by the Montevidean Government. and in this volume we find the statistical chapter of sorrows of Flores Island and its Lazaretto, which, with tears in our eyes, we now give our readers. The figures will be sufficient to instruct them as to the roaring trade or exploitation going on under the shadow of the yellow flag.

Victims who have suffered quarantine.
Infected vessels; disinfected ditto,
according to the "memory" of the Junta de Sanidad of Montevideo, a corporation which Dante in one of his "cantos" speaks of, and not in very favorable terms.

German	vessels	42
"	crew	2,037
"	Passengers	201
Argentine	vessels	3
"	crew	61
"	Passengers	4
Brazilian	vessels	29
"	crew	1,501
"	Passengers	1,928
Spanish	vessels	2
"	crew	126
"	Passengers	67
French	vessels	65
"	crew	5,097
"	Passengers	1,827
Italian	vessels	35
"	crew	2,647
"	Passengers	1,025
Oriental	vessels	1
"	crew	18
"	Passengers	24
Portuguese	vessels	3
"	crew	75
"	Passengers	5
English	vessels	78
"	crew	5,080
"	Passengers	3,370

It will be seen from the foregoing official list that the English are by far the most numerous victims. In the previous year there were two North American vessels with 26 crew and one passenger, but in the following year there were none at all; the "Stars and Stripes" evidently got quite enough of the delights of Flores island and its Stygian hotel.

Some few of our statistical subscribers who have more time on their hands than we have, will be able to estimate the business carried on in the island with the basis of 25,000 victims during the quarantine months; of whom 24 entered the hospital, 17 were cured and 7 died.

De Profundis Clamavi.

THE RAILWAY GUARANTEES.

The debate in the Chamber of Deputies on this most important subject has revealed an opposition to the Minister's scheme which few of us anticipated, and which will not be relished by our friends in London.

It is unnecessary to go over the details of Dr. Zorrilla's measure now under discussion, as we have on many previous occasions explained them. The bill was discussed, opposed, and finally passed in the Senate, now it comes up before the Deputies, where it was generally supposed, having passed the Senate, it would have been at once sanctioned: but it seems we all counted without our host in this business; and from the tenor of Tuesday's debate it would appear that Sr. Don Rufino Varela, who leads the opposition, has raised a very serious point which the Minister will find it difficult to get over. and which if triumphant must necessarily postpone the bill till the next session.

For the last three or four years the National Government has been trying one way or the other to settle this Railway Guarantee Question. Dr. Zapata, when Minister of the Interior, did his best to arrange it; on his retirement from office Dr. Quintana, as Minister of the Interior, and who is regarded as the best railway lawyer in the republic, tried his hand. Then Came Dr. Terry, who was supposed to have cut the Gordian Knot by naming an Inspection Committee to go over all the accounts of the various railways, and report on the actual amounts due by the railways to the Government, and by the Government to the railways.

This Railway Inspection Committee worked and toiled and laboured for about 2½ years and finally sent in its report to the Government, but which report it seems has never yet been published.

When the bill came up for discussion on Tuesday, Deputy Varela asked for the publication of the report, so that the House before it voted on the bill could find out if the Government owed the Railway Companies 40 millions gold dollars or not. This led to an animated discussion between the Minister and Sr. Varela. The Minister asked if it was proposed to publish all these antecedents which would fill over 1000 pages, and the study of which will hold till 1900. Deputy Varela tartly replied that there was a great blunder somewhere in the whole business, as the Minister had just said the two millions voted by Congress was only one half what the guarantees amount to. Mr. Varela asserted that the two millions voted for 1895, and the 2 millions voted for 1896 represent 90 per cent of what the Government should pay for guarantees, and he was prepared to prove it. The Minister sharply replied that Mr. Varela could prove nothing of the kind. To which Mr. Varela replied that the House would soon see for itself, but that he required the report of the Railway Inspection Committee should be first published and distributed amongst the Deputies. He opposed the proposed arrangements, as he considered it most injurious to the credit and interests of the country. He therefore demanded that the report in question be published.

The Minister of the Interior again remarked that the publication of the report would be a tedious affair; fully 2000 pages, and requiring at the least two years to study. Deputy Varela replied that the very objections raised by the Minister supported his motion. If the Minister required so much time to study 2000 pages of a report, how could he ask him to discuss and vote on the measure without first reading the report? He had looked everywhere for data en the subject and could find nothing, and the report of the Railway Board, which ought to be published, would not be ready for another month. It was then decided to postpone the discussion until the next day, and the House ordered the report in question to be printed and distributed.

DEPARTURE OF THE SQUADRON.

January 10th

The departure of the Argentine Squadron for Golfo Nuevo marks an epoch in the naval annals of the country. For the first time for many years the old moorings that doomed the fleet to inactivity in the waters of the Plate have been sundered, and we welcome the snapping of the rotten old cables as a new departure that will make salt-water sailors and confident and experienced skippers.

We must go back many years to find a precedent for such a displacement of the fleet. In 1879, we think, the old river squadron was ordered off to Santa Cruz to dislodge the Chilians. How the ricketty craft ever got there or ever came back is a wonder, for the monitors and gun-boats of that squadron were never built for Ocean service. The old generation of river sailors manned the fleet; they had little theory to boast of and not much polish, but they knew how to handle the ropes.

A few years ago the iron-clad Brown, cruiser 25 de Mayo, and torpedo cruisers Espora and Rosales were sent to Europe; the memories of that cruise, that began with the loss of the Rosales, are familiar to all and we need not harp on them. That squadron was commanded by a man of the old school, but officered by men from the Naval College—a new generation.

Since then the old naval element has made way for the rising generation, as the squadron that left La Plata yesterday for the South Atlantic is commanded and officered by what is familiarly called in navy circles men from the "Escuela," that is to say who have gone through their regular course in the Naval School. All these young officers are men of scientific attainments and their only weakness is a certain want of practice, call it also want of confidence in handling their ships. Regular cruising will remove this and other shortcomings that must be remedied by steady practice in coasting and ocean navigation.

Another drawback is the acknowledged inefficiency of the crews, the great scarcity of sailors, owing to the few inducements offered by the Government to enlist in the navy. Years must elapse before the Argentine Government can fall back on a sufficient number of bona-fide sailors to man the fleet. The present elements aboard cannot be satisfactory and will never be satisfactory until the Minister of Marine completely alters the present system by

raising the level of the crew and much improving the conditions under which they are enlisted; and then some years must elapse before the country can fall back on any number of good Argentine sailors to meet the requirements of all the new vessels that are being yearly added to the fleet.

We shall look forward with interest to the results of this expedition to Golfo Nuevo, and we hope that the Report of Captain Barilari will give a plain, outspoken account of all the defects that are inevitable in such a youthful navy as that of Argentina. One thing is certain—the Navy Office should keep the vessels constantly employed cruising and surveying in the South: it is the only means of making sailors of the men, and the Chief of the Staff, Captain Garcia holds this opinion Costly though the system be, it must be carried out.

TO THE SALTO GUAYRA ON HORSEBACK.

BY

(*P. A. Freund.*)

A wonderful waterfall is the Salto Guayra, not only on account of tremendous volume of water which it carries and the total height of the Falls, but also on account of the varying beauty of the surrounding scenery and the length of the sloping road over which the surging waters are carried.

The Upper Parana is a mighty river which comes from the Interior and the eastern heights of Brazil. Many mighty rivers, such as the Tiete, the Parana-Panema and many others, join and proceed slowly over the Brazilian high table land, until they reach the Maracayú Mountain, which is a slope or one sided grandiest, with its foot in Paraguay, while its top constitutes the Brazilian frontier. The Upper Parana, reaching this slope, overflows it, and tumbles down the steep incline in a confused mass of foaming cascades, which spread its white spray into the air and against rock, and forest. From deep culverts these waters suddenly leap over big pointed rocks and by the impetus of their downward course appear to rest like a solid mass on the top of their granite barriers, and then fall down again with increased noise and force filling the air with fog and foam, and cushing along like the strongest mill stream-through granite channels and over rocky mountain beds.

Meanwhile the rocky shore, being clad in the finest Spring green of a tropical forest, shows exactly how far the flow of the waters extends sideways, and it is partly the vivid extremes between the colours of the foaming waters and the fresh forests, and partly the extremes between so much noisy force, ebullition and voluminous moving masses, with the immovable, silent forest at its side, which impresses the mind, on beholding these falls, to such an extent that one cannot leave off thinking of this glorious sight, for a length of time, after having left these falls behind.

It is not possible to say at what point the fall is at an end; the ground slopes downward, as seen when one walks along the rocky shore, and the height of these falls may therefore be given by different observers with very different figures, but it appears after all, that the height must be considered to be less than the height of the Niagara falls, while the volumes of water, which these falls carry are bigger than the volume of the Niagara falls. Where these falls end, the lower Parana commences, but for many leagues the surging waters rush on, making it impossible for any sailing craft to cross from one shore to the other, in fact, the lower Parana is more or less dangerous and boisterous in its whole course, until it joins the Paraguay river, in connection with which river it passes at length the foreshore of Buenos Aires. It must therefore be distinctly understood, that the Salto Guayra has very little of the Niagara vertical fall, it is a run down a steep slope, mostly in various channels, which sometimes open and sometimes close, forming slender or broad islands, of which the greater part are full of impenetrable forests, through which it is impossible to see and to observe what takes places behind them. Nevertheless behind some of these islands one sees great clouds of smoke, or of vapour, or of foam, indicating that waterfalls, very likely much stronger and heavier than those one can see from the Paraguayan side, exist on the Brazilian side of the river, but they are shut out from sight by the big forests, and it is not easily possible to cross the river, in order to examine what wonders are hidden to us. The width of the river I calculated to 3000 be metres or say 2 miles, but this space is filled up by a chos of islands which in some instances only leave the width of a broad street for a channel in which the leaping waters of the falls can escape. Some of the islands are low others are high, say as high as a good sized Church tower, and behind one of these rocky islands the seething waters get so enclosed and barred that they rise to the height of the island, and having traversed it fall down again in their old channel in a hundred milkwhite cascades. Above these cascades a big sailing frigate appears to have been wrecked on the rocks; it is lying on its side with its bare masts high in the air, right on the top of one of the highest ledges. The Indians say it came from San Paulo in Brazil and was carried by the current right into the falls. But it is nothing of the sort. With a good telescope one discerns plainly, that it is a collection of big forest trees, which, curiously enough, have been thrown up on rocks, where they have hooked together until they have got this fantastical shape.

It is of much interest to look at the meeting of these waters from different channels. They come in different directions, with different height, different colour, different force, and when they meet, there is such a turmoil, such racing and winding and turning, that it seems warfare, though they at last are all rushing in the same direction. Some of the waves leap up and shun each other and form hollow places, and tumble together and roar and hiss that the noise can be heard at 5 leagues distance, as I distinctly observed one still night.

The Brazilian shore is much higher and steeper than the Paraguayan shore. There are regular mountains on the Brazilian side, all clad in green and with deep indentures, and this accounts for the large volume of water which rushes out from that side into the rocky channels on the Paraguayan side. No doubt the Upper Paraná has openings on that side, of which we know nothing. There is room enough for the Uppsr Paraná to empty itself into hidden falls, because the width of the River above the falls is many leagues, forming a charming and quiet lake, like one of the Italian lakes, with beautiful surroundings. But there is no boat at hand to explore this lake, no vessel comes near it, for it is treacherous and deep. Should a boat be seized by its current and oars or wind refuse to act, its last hour would be at hand. It is curious to observe how extremes meet near these falls, the greatest quietness above the falls, and such turmoil below.

It is impossible to believe that such exquisite scenery, such extraordinary show of natural forces, should not impel mankind to proceed to these falls and admire the grandeur of nature's boldest productions. And yet, hardly any visitors ever went to visit these solitary regions, and those who went were foreigners. As far as I know, no Paraguayan ever went, or at least never wrote about them. In fact the dificulties to reach the falls have been very great. To the West the whole region is covered with inpenetrable forests, there are no grazing plots for animals, and no inhabitants save wild Indians. It was then necessary to approach the falls in sailing vessels, and this has been done in the case of most visitors. Some went down the river Igatimi, and when they reached the upper Paraná they followed the coast until within a few leagues of the Falls, as in the expedition of Enrique Lopez. Others went up in canoes against the current, as in the expedition of Schoch and Barnes. But this is costly and difficult and dangerous to boot, as in the expedition of Dr. Bourgade. If a road could be cut through the forest, this would simplify matters much.—26 years ago a Government Commission opened up this Road, the frontier line between Brazil and Paraguay, but it got closed again on account of the fertility of the soil, the exube rance of vegetation, and because no visitors ever went to make use of the Road, the war then having just finished and the country being in a very deplorable state. But now it is very different, since the exploration and working of very valuable yerbales has brought many inhabitants, if not to the neighbourhood of the Guayra Falls, at least to the Road which leads to the Falls.

More than a year ago the Matto Grosso Government arranged with the Matte Lerangeira Yerba Company to have all its yerbales in the Southern part of Matto Grosso explored and utilized, and one of the first things the Company had to do was to open up its southern boundary line, in order to prevent people from the South entering the yerbales and carrying off the yerba. But this southern boundary line is the frontier line between Brazil and Paraguay, which runs by the ledge of the Maracayu Mountain and ends just in the Salto Guayra, and therefore when the boundary line was laid bare and prepared for the passage of horses and cargo, we made at the same time the Road which leads to the Falls. At the present day it is therefore easy for visitors to reach the falls on horseback: the whole Road from Villa Concepcion to the falls is in perfect order and can be passed without any danger even by ladies on horsebaek. I myself with 5 horses and all my followers, arrived at the falls on the 23rd of October, coming from Villa Concepcion, without any mishap of any kind. That day both horses and men bathed in the waters of the Salto, because it is always easy to find some quiet nook on the coast where the waters enter without any current—I suppose, that when intending visitors to these wonderfull falls know that now they can reach them on horseback, with very little expense and in perfect security, they certainly will come in numbers and keep my road open, which is the chief object of my writing about these falls, since I have got the responsibility for the security of the adjoining yerbales. The easiest Road for visitors from Buenos Aires to the Guayra falls is by Villa Concepcion on the Paraguay river, where steamers will land both passengers and horses. From there to Taquaty and to Panadero there is a pleased cart road and only 2 rivers to pass, the Ipané and the Aguaray Guazu. On the Ipane there is a canoe, and the Aguaray is often passed on horseback without danger, or when the river is high there is a canoe, or if this fails, passengers who cannot swim cross on an oxhide with upturned sides, which affords a very safe boat, as long as the passenger sits quite still and keeps his balance. Panadero is about 50 leagues from Villa Concepcion, and on this road provisions can be had anywhere. After passing Panadero the road winds up the Amambag hills, clad with the most beautiful forests, and passing through them we find ourselves on the Brazilian frontier, which has to be followed to a small settlement called Ipehun, distant 90 leagues from Villa Concepcion. This is the place where Colonel Mansilla went 20 years since, in order to find gold. Now we strike to the North, passing through Brazilian forests, and follow the coast of the River Igatimy to a settlement on the river Mocoy, where provision can be hed in abundance, and where there is maize and grass for the horses. All these roads constantly pass by little brooks or wells, so that neither passengers nor horses ever feel the want of water, and as to provisions, every one has to bring along what he is in want of, filling up again in these different settlements. But surely one must not expect to find other provisions than just common food, beef and toasted maize.

We now enter the Indian country, where no white men live, and leaving the Igatimy, which is a Brazilian river, strike over towards the Pirahy, which is the first of the Paraguayan rivers falling into the lower Parana below the Guayra falls; but there is nothing to be feared of these Indians, they are very obliging and quiet people, as long as they are not offended. They know a little of the Brazilian language and Guarany, and so it is not difficult to make them understand what one wants. We, who know them, live and sleep amongst them in perfect security, they give us fowls and maize and we give them powder and poncho; or linenware and knives or beads. The Chief Cacique is Felix, he was a sargeant before, but we have made him a General now, on condition to keep his tribe well in hand, to chastise robbery, to protect all visitors to these parts, to provide them with food, and to guard them personally with his soldiery against any evil which might befall them, while they are in his territory, and I am certain he will do this faithfully. Nearing the Pirahy, having returned to the Paraguayan side of the frontier, we wade several small streams and pass by several small yerba settlements, belonging to the Industrial Paraguaya, until we make a halt at "Laguna Cai" or at the Rancho "Naranja hay" where this cartroad ends, and where we are not very far off the Parana river. I have left some horses at this last place, which will be fat by this time, and which may come in useful to any visitor who finds that his own horses are in a weak condition, which will easily happen after a ride of 130 leagues.

The cart road ceases now, and a small but steep river is ahead, but I had a good bridge built here, and the passage into the thick dark forest, where branches and brambles and briars soon will divest the passenger of all superfluities, such as golden watch, chain, veil, coat-tails and delicate trousers, may be begun in real earnest, until a resting place is found in the "tolderia" of the Indian sargeant Puy, where Indian life may be studied in its naked reality. This man lives in an opening in the forest, where he has got a very good plantation, plenty of bananas, sweet sugar-cane, maize, mani, sweet potatoes and so on. He is a very trustworthy guide, who knows the forest well, and may be recommended to those who are in want of his services. If he is engaged to show the road to the Guayra Falls, which are now 6 leagues ahead, he will strike right into the middle of the high tropical forest, and at the distance of 2 leagues lead the way to a most interesting Indian settlement; the 'tolderia' Barrero, where the sergeant Benigno lives with his tribe. There is another "cacique" in this "tolderia", but he is ill in bed or in his hammock, with a diseased foot and cannot go about. The Sergeant Benigno happened to be at the Guayra Falls fishing when the Italian Minister Count Antonelli arrived there a month before my visit. He engaged Benigno as his guide and gave him a certificate of which the tribe is very proud, keeping the certificate well enveloped in a "poncho", a shirt and a wooden box. So on this account, I engaged him too, and proceeded, when leaving his "toldos" with with 5 guides or "vaqueanos" ahead, and certain it is we did not lose our road, nor were we ever in want of fresh water or juicy berries or fruit from these forests. One should think, that these Indians have some remembrance of last century's Jesuit Mission, because they have a big wooden cross outside their house, and another wooden cross inside on the wall of their room. This is ornamented with fine bird's feathers and painted with various colours.

As I emerged from the forest and came out into the sunny opening, only followed by my assistant, I rode at once to the building where I heard the chanting. There the public chanter, with two men at each side, and a row of women behind, each one with a musical instrument in his hand, was standing in front of the cross and singing loud, accompanied by the company. It was a sort of religious chant, and evidently a religious service, but I could not find out what their ideas on religion were. Though living secluded, very likely without ever having seen a white visitor, they brought us Mandioca, toasted maize and mani, and we spent the night amongst these Indians, the children running to and fro to have a look at us. Meanwhile our horses feasted on such rich grass as they had not tasted for a long time. Visitors who go to the Guayra Falls should not omit to pay a visit to this most interesting Indian settlement; they may see and buy here Indian ornaments, curious bird feathers, bows and arrows, other weapons, skins and live animals of the big forest. Shortly after leaving this "tolderia," and when continuing to cut the road through the forest, we heard the first sounds from the Salto Guayra. We were then about 4 or 5 leagues distant, and we hurried on to reach the falls, but rain set in, and when we came to the river side we were cold and miserable. I went into the Paraná waters at once and found them as warm as a warm bath; so this refreshed us, and the Indians having caught in a few minutes time beautiful fish, mostly "Dorados," we soon had our first supper of fried fish ready and were longing for the views in store for us, and to gaze, astonished, on the marvels of this phenomenon, which nature has prepared at this only spot of our globe.

When we know, that so many thousands of visitors go to see the Niagara Falls, and hardly anyone braves the difficulties of the road to the Guayra Falls, though one can not conceive that a more imposing spectacle, or a sight which impresses the mind more forcibly can be imagined, we cannot but believe that the announcement of a road in existence right to the very falls must change this state of things and induce many people to visit these natural marvels, even if they had been reluctant to brave former difficulties. Two good horses and an expense of a few hundred dollars will bring a practical visitor, more so if he combines with some friends, right from Villa Concepcion to the Guayra Falls and back.

Pedro A. Freund,
Fiscal to the Matte Larangeira Yerba Company.

ANOTHER CHILIAN CLOUD.

The rumoured resignation of Sr. Guerrero of a porttolio which he accepted but never held, is one of those unlooked for political events which must fairly astound Argentine statesmen.

Hardly has a fortnight elapsed since Dr. Guerrero took leave of the Argentine Government, to accept the important post of Minister of Foreign Affairs in his own country. Previous to his nomination as Minister of Foreign Affairs there had been a prolonged political crisis in Chile, and the President of Chile passed weeks and weeks in ineffectual labours to form a Cabinet. After great delays, mutual concessions and a deal of patching up, a new Chilian Cabinet was formed, the central figure of which was Dr. Guerrero Chilian Minister in Buenos Aires.

This experienced and distinguished Chilian diplomat left this country only the other day, and his departure was, as we then remarked, surrounded by everything that could form a happy augury for his future career. He had passed through the most critical times and moments of surpassing excitement and by his great prudence, discretion and conciliatory conduct had won for himself both here and in Chile the very highest reputation. Strange, therefore, that, hardly has he crossed the mighty Andes and set foot in his own country than the discordant elements of Chilian trouble should again raise their heads and oust from office the very man whom the Chilians themselves took such superhuman trouble to get into their Cabinet.

We very much fear that the political state of parties in Chile is but imperfectly known on this side of the Andes, and that all the blessed eloquence of Dr. Jara and the Chilian Archbishop Dr. Casanova, and their pious pilgrimage to the Virgin of Lujan, which beyond all question did so much to revive the friendly feeling between the two countries, corresponded in nothing with the real national political sentiment of Chile, whose people need a lesson to bring them to their proper senses.

If the whole population of Chile were counted out to-morrow, there is not one man in that country whose judgment of the Chileno-Argentino question is equal to that of Guerrero. He knows this Republic from top to bottom, its public men, its weaknesses and its strength, its debilities and its forces, its vitality, its resources and its general movement, and Guerrero is of all other men in Chile the best qualified to measure the awful sequence which the rude ignorance of the "Rotos" and the vapid patriotism of the shopkeepers and dealers of Santiago and Valparaiso would secure their unfortunate country, did their party gain headway.

With very guarded suspicion we therefore look on the news of Mr. Guerrero's resignation. He knows well what he is about, and is determined to stand clear of the headlong ruin with which the political errors of his countrymen threaten their native land.

THE LAND OF THE LOTUS EATERS.

THE SUNNY SOUTH OF ABYSSINIA.

HERODOTUS CONFIRMED.

ITALIA AFRICANA

The tradition of the "Land of the Lotus eaters" has in modern times been regarded as a myth which originated in the fertile imagination of the old historian. But later discoveries are tending to prove the veracity of the writer who has been aptly called the "Father of History." The land of the pigmies has been visited by Stanley and Sweinfurth, and specimens of that interesting race have been brought to Europe. So, too, the story which Herodotus relates of three young men, who crossed the desert to the "land of the lotus eaters," had a solid foundation of fact. There is every reason to believe that this charming country is identical with the Harar Province of Southern Abyssinia, belonging to Ras Makunen, Asi—rapparent to the throne of Ethiopia. The writer, who has travelled more or less in five continents has never seen anything to equal the beauty and fertility of these countries.

With an average elevation of from five to six thousand feet above sea level, we find a climate which is almost perfection and where the productions of both the tropical and temperate zones come to a perfection which is simply astonishing. Sugar cane and wheat may be seen growing side by side, under the same conditions, as well as bananas, cotton, millet, saffron, barley, and last, but not least, coffee, which is found growing wild in the woods away from the plantations altogether. The coffee of this country is the best in the world, and is sold in the trade as pure mocha, the genuine mocha being considered inferior. Such is the country which lies temptingly beneath the grasp of the modern descendants of the ancient Romans—if they are fortunate enough to conquer it. A short description of the route which I followed on my first journey should be of interest. Leaving the brown hills and white plains of Somali-land behind us, we began to ascend the blue hills which stretched away to the North-West as far as the eye could reach. The path first leads up a winding gorge, through which flows a mountain stream, dashing from rock to rock, and cascade to cascade, until it finally loses itself in the sandy water-course in the plain below. Huge granite boulders blocked the path, and only with the greatest difficulty could we proceed.

The camels bred in the hills will go anywhere, being almost as sure-footed as a mule and not having the cat-like antipathy to water of the desert camel. Scrub-clad, rocky bluffs overhang the gorge. Three hours' journey through this pass brought us to the summit. Here a lovely scene is disclosed to view. In striking contrast to the bleak hills and sterile plains of Somali-land, a silvery stream meandered along a winding valley, bounded by high volcanic peaks. The alluvial flats and lower part of the hillsides were verdant with "ahurra" and corn. While beyond the line of cultivation, the village of Darami—a row of picturesque conical huts nestled on the hill-side. Ante-diluvian looking enphorbias and cacti of the most grotesque forms line the roads, and form stockades around the houses.

An open air market is held every alternate day, where eggs, fowls, grain etc, are bartered for tobacco, cotton goods, salt, rice and dates. The Galla inhabitants—considering the simplicity of their agricultural implements—are most industrious. Three days' journey, by the most execrable roads, through most lovely mountain scenery, past the picturesque mountain peak of Condudu, the open air market at Dokulli and across the Gorge formed by the turbulent Erar river, brought us to the neighbourhood of Harar or Adiri; the city of the lotus eaters. The silvery rays of the declining sun, reflected from the dark green foliage of the coffee shrub, form a scene of beauty—once seen—not easily forgotten. Crowds of Gallas are met, returning from the city markets. Nearer the city, we overtake numerous Hararis going homewards from their gardens in the outskirts. A mountain stream is passed, winding along right beneath the walls, where some women are seen filling their water-vessels.

A rude gate-way, commanded by a tower, forms the entrance. The walls—ten to twenty-five feet in height—built of uncut stone without mortar, are in a rather dilapidated condition. To the writer it is an old, familiar scene. The rocky streets, lined with flat-roofed, one storied houses, and here and there a tree. Long haired Gallas returning from the market. Stately Somalis, lounging around with an air of listless preoccupation. Now the jingle of the tiny mule bells announces the approach of an Abyssinian Shoum with his escort of barefoot soldiers, clad in white robes with a broad crimson stripe down the centre. Harari women step briskly by on their way to the market. The costume is rather striking. A blue robe with a piece of crimson cloth let in about the neck and shoulders. The hair is neatly combed, and rolled up in a ball about the size of an orange above each ear. In the bazaar the sight is a curious one. The motley assemblage of people, the constant hum of conversation in five different languages, Amharic, Galla, Harari, Somali and Arabic. The stalls and shops are gay with coloured handkerchiefs, print robes, silk turbans and white cotton goods. The native women with baskets of fruit, grain or meal in front of them, all go to make a sight, only paralleled in the land of Hindustan. The population, about 40,000, are the lotus-eaters, a distinct race existing at the present time nowhere beyond the city walls; speaking a language having some affinity with those of Tigre and Guragwi. The complexion is a dark-coffee colour; and there is but small evidence of negro blood. The origin of the fable of the lotus-eaters is the habit to which they are much addicted of chewing the tender shoots of a shrub called Gaat, which acts as a stimulant to certain parts of the nervous system. Space will not permit giving many interesting particulars, "re" the land of the Lotus eaters.

Alex. K. MacDonald.

MUTTERINGS AND MURMURINGS.

In that high and polished sphere under tutelary influence of diplomacy, call it the Casa Rosada here or the Moneda in Santiago de Chile, there is a tacit agreement to ignore all the bellicose bluster in the press and an invariable, stereotyped assurance that the relations between the two Governments are of a most cordial nature. Limits' Commissioners may disagree, newspapers may indulge in firebrand articles, panic-mongers may croak, the public may mutter and murmur—but perfect harmony prevails in the high regions where the destinies of the two countries are swayed, where treaties and protocols are signed, and all the turmoil below does not send even a faint echo through the rarified diplomatic ambient. Could there be a more striking contrast—harmony above, discord below.

However, if the temper of a people can be gauged by the many, varied channels that public opinion invariably seeks—say the legislative precincts, though doors be closed—the columns of the Press—the gossip at the festive board of politicians or at the humble mess of the laborer—mutterings and murmurings in the Bolsa, in the cafés, in the streets—if in fact all can smell gunpowder in the air, we may well pause and inquire into this assumed confidence in the governing sphere and into this feverish ferment and visible irritation in the people. The varying phases of the Limits Question, incidentally, passionately or otherwise commented on in the columns of the papers, may, perhaps, be reckoned beyond the scope of the masses, who can place full reliance on the tact and experience of diplomats and ministers; but the public are nettled by the great increase in armaments, the special votes in secret sittings, the evident, feverish activity in army and navy departments, the interminable daily newspaper literature filling columns upon columns with military matters. Add to this the inconvenience of the mobilization of the National Guards, the militarization of all youths of 20 years, quartered with Line Regiments, wrested from their homes and their occupation. Need we wonder at all the murmuring and muttering, the angry echoes of which we daily hear in the violent articles of the *Prensa, Tribuna, Argentino, Tiempo*, etc.

It is idle to disguise it—the people are working themselves into a dangerous mood, and, no matter how great the confidence of Governments in their powers of control and of shaping events, a moment may come when the present ferment may render matters very critical. At the rate Chile and Argentina are arming in a dangerous rivalry for military preponderance the climax cannot be distant: preparing for a fray is a dangerous game, and the contagion of warlike spirit always spreads like wildfire. Meantime, there is in the councils of Government a certain feeling of security both here in the Casa Rosada and in the Moneda, but that feeling hangs upon—shall we say a man or upon a name—Guerrero. It has anything but a peaceful ring, yet it sounds sympathetically in Argentine ears. His presence in the Chilian Cabinet is like an olive-branch sent across the Andes. We believe that this is but a slender foundation for any sense of security in the near future.

Let us but watch the course of recent events—we shall go back but a few days. No sooner did Guerrero cross the Andes on his journey home than a great banquet was mooted to the Limits' Commissioner Sr. Barros Arana: the significant feature lies in the popular as well as official color of this banquet, proposed at the very moment that Sr. Guerrero, who joins issue with Barros Arana, arrives in Chile. This may not necessarily be viewed as a rebuff—far from it—nor as a warning, but we cannot help thinking that the peculiar deity that envelops in its protecting folds intrigues, diplomacy, larceny, "et hoc genus omne"—Mercury—is pulling the strings in Santiago de Chile. Already there are ominous rumors of disagreement in the Chilian Cabinet, even before Guerrero has been incorporated! Already there are whisperings that the name, sympathetic to Argentines, grates upon the Chilian, that whatever propositions the new Minister may bring from the Atlantic will be refused on the Pacific. Rumors, rumors, nothing but rumors! Ramblings only, but they are of account, not to say a direct warning.

All's well that ends well: but Chile and Argentina at the present juncture are being whirled into a vortex, they are rushing into positions that may bring on a collision—like two express trains launched from opposite termini—all hangs on the pointsmen—Alcorta and Guerrero—but should the latter not turn up? "Cave."

ROSARIO.

(*From our own correspondent.*)

Jan. 10th

The Internal Tax on matches is showing how the unscrupulous manufacturers are swindling the consumers in the most shamefaced manner, and it is time that the Government should put a stop to the proceeding, and if the public is to contribute towards the Nation's revenue at the rate of one cent for each box of matches which it consumes, the Nation ought to see that the consumer gets his money's worth.

The manufacturers, (and I trust there may be some exceptions) deliver the article to the retail merchants, every box of matches with the stamp pasted on it in such a way that it must be torn in order to use the contents. We pay at the rate of 10 cents per 3 boxes, and find on opening them that each box contains less than half the number of matches which ought to be there, and as a rule, the inflammable heads of such a small size, that it may be safely said that fully 25% of the lucifers are useless.

In short, Government and the manufacturers are those who benefit by this tax, in a country where even babies use matches, and as usual, it is the public who pays the piper, and this is by no means fair. Let Government put as many taxes as it likes—we have but to grin and bear it—but let it do so in such a manner that the consumers may not be defrauded in favour of dishonest manufacturers. Let it adopt the French system for instance, and make tobacco and matches a Government monopoly, and then we may smoke cigars that have not been handled, in the stamp posting process by the dirty fingers of "quiensabe quien" and get the right number of matches for what we pay for them.

* * *

The past year's movement in our Post and Telegraph Office shows a marked increase on the preceding one, and proves that Rosario's growing importance is no sham.

In 1894 the total amount of correspondence was 8,030,235, and in 1895 8,719,788.

We thus see that the increase in 1895 is 8%.

We also note an increase in the Telegraph service, the number of telegrams sent being 214,130 and 137,057 received with a total of 1,309,546 words, the equivalent being in national currency 102,389.41 dollars.

The gross receipts of this 4th district during 1895 have been $374.229.95 subdivided thus:

	$ m/n
Post Office.....	233,770.28
Overcharges.....	9,620.83
Telegraph.....	130,838.84

Such results are easily accounted for, if we take into consideration the daily increasing population of Rosario—the extension of its industries, and the new and growing commercial ties which unite its relations to important American and European markets.

The removal of the office to its new and magnificent premises, as well as the ever increasing work of this department, will undoubtedly demand an addition in the "personnel," to aid Mr. Mazza, the Chief of the Section, in his labours, for which he has really proved himself to be extremely competent.

* * *

But little activity is noted in the wheat and linseed business, and the tendency of the market being arising one, holders of grain prefer waiting for more favourable prices.

Some exporters offered for wheat yesterday from 7.70 to 7.80, two or three operations being effected on this basis, for a quantity of 1800 tons more or less.

In linseed there is a slight improvement. Those exporters who had agreements made were paying yesterday from 10.70 to 10.60, there being a transaction for 2000 quintals at 11 dollars.

* * *

What about the Cuban question, Mr. STANDARD? I have bet six new hats against an old "chambergo" that the Dons get the worst of it; but really the news that we get here are so contradictory that we have nothing to go by in our appreciation of the possible sequel of the war.

It is an extraordinary thing that all the official news speak of encounters with the rebels, in which these are invariably defeated in the exact proportion of 100 to 1 against the Spaniards, and the list of dead and wounded are almost the same for every encounter.

I think it is time for you to start a telegraphic service of your own, to keep us properly posted up.

Jan. 14th.

Rosario socially and Rosario commercially speaking, are two very different things. Whereas, we are fast getting on towards the eventual position we shall undoubtedly be credited with, in a future not far off—that of the first and most important commercial centre in the republic, socially, we are nowhere, at least up to the present, and any of the forlorn capitals of the interior provinces can take the shine out of us in this respect, and the reason is evident; Rosario is a creation of yesterday's date we may say, and the family traditions and ties of radication which link one generation to another do not exist with us, and hence, there is not that "esprit de corps," to be met with in our society generally, and which is an agreeable was well as a necessary relaxation: to civilized human kind after the toils and troubles of every day life.

The Rosario of to-day is a veritable sort of beehive, where the buzzing of business, coupled with the feverish activity of even cats and dogs, in the struggle after the almighty dollar, constitutes the prominent feature. We see new faces every day, and an old resident may walk for hours in our streets without wearing the brim of his hat off, as would certainly be the case in Cordoba for instance, by lifting it every few paces in true Oriental,—I mean Spanish politeness to all the Toms, Dicks and Harrys of his acquaintance.

This very feature which characterizes Rosario tends, naturally enough, to the development of feelings of indifference and selfishness in matters social, and the Monroe doctrine is unconciously being acted upon in consequence. Our "Club Social" for instance is or should be, for the self styled—"creme de le creme" of our society. The "Fenix" comes next, on slightly more democratic lines, but both institutions, instead of being for the society, eventually, and in spite of the best intentions of every new committee, become political clubs with a dash of Monte Carlo about them. The German Club is for the Germans—Saint Bartholomew's Church School room is the "locale" for the English social gatherings, and so on. There is thus no union nor confraternity in our society in general, it being a case with us, of "cada uno para si, y Dios para todos." It is this lack of society fellow-

ship which makes of our native young men as a rule unpolished beings, and it accounts also for the lack of common respect and courtesy, with which women are treated in this country.

The younsters of our best families commence the "Café" life almost before their frocks have been substituted for pants, and not having had the teaching of that refinement and culture of manners which can only be acquired in the society of ladies, they think it very natural to act towadrs them in public with a total want of polteness, when not, as is often the case, with downright insolence. This conduct of our "young bloods" is by no means a local nuisance of ours, as Buenos Aires, which claims a European civilization, furnishes many and daily instances of acts which in really civilized cities would meet with prompt chastisement, no matter how high the social standing or antecedents of the delinquent's family and connections.

To give an instance of what is of very common occurrence, not only in this Chicago of ours, but in your own Athens of the Plate, I will relate what I saw last Sunday in one of our excursion river boats which ply to and from the Saladillo bathing station, and which is becoming a pleasant and fashionable resort for our families. I took one of the Cavallino steam launches, and on the return trip, not only was the boat allowed to be crammed to a most dangerous degree, but a lively set of "mal criado" youngsters added with their mad pranks, and obseene language and behaviour, to the annoyance and confusion of the passengers generally, and the ladies particularly. The Captain, or whatever the rank of the man in charge may be, simply looked on and grinned.

This sort of thing is unfortunately too common, both here and in Buenos Aires, and even the members of our budding "jeunesse dorée" (they are the worst lot in my opinion)—think it quite a proper lark and "muy gracioso" to challenge and address remarks to any woman if his chance to be by herself in our public throughfares, the tramway, the theatre, etc., and the representatives of the lnw, when visible, look on in placid indifference, when they do not aggravate matters as illustrated a few days ago by what happened to a lady in Buenos Aires, at midday and in a most central part of the city, when followed, and after being persistently annoyed by some member of the "masher fraternity" both were run into the "comisaria" by an over zealous vigilante. Why had a lady, or for the matter of that, any woman who was not one, found herself in such a position in England or the States the first passer by or the commonest "changador" would there and then have chastised the insolent lout.

How then, in view of such a state of things is it possible for honest folks to take their wives, sisters or daughters to public resorts of amusement, or even to run the gauntlet in front of the high life "cantones," such as the Aguila in Calle Florida, for instance, when if ladies escape a direct insult they have to hear the most disgraceful language and remarks?—and what is a man to do in such cases? He may take the law into his own hands—get per chance a thrashing for his pains, because the young gentlemen of the "gracioso" type generally go in packs—create a row, and as a sequel be taken to the Comisaria and pay a fine "de llapa." Either this or quietly decamp from the premises, with his friends, a proceeding which savours slightly of "infra-dig."

Talking of these Saladillo excursion trips of ours, I may add that if things are allowed to go on as at present something disagreeable will happen one of these days, as our river Parana, with its rapid surface and under currents opposite the town has already got a sinister record for accidents.

The "empresarios" ought to be strictly obliged by the authorities to limit their number of passengers to the capacity of the steam launches, and to have proper and safe landing places. This, in reference to the Cavallino "empresa," as I am happy to say that that of Messrs. Shaw and Solezzi is managed on much better lines, although a little more supervision and discipline would not be amiss with them either, as precaution nnd prudence ought ever to be exercised to the fullest extent on passenger boats, particularly on these pleasure trips where women and children increase the danger and the responsibilities in cases of accidents.

Leo.

DEATH OF SENOR GUERRERO.

Jan. 14th

The funeral of this esteemed gentleman took place yesterday afternoon, and was largely attended.

Deceased was, for the last quarter of a century, one the best known men in Buenos Aires, owing to the immense fortune which he inherited from his daughter (Mrs. Alzaga) through one of the greatest tragedies ever known in this city.

Mr. Guerrero came to this country a boy from Spain, and worked his way up until he reached the respectable position of a head lighterman, which thirty years ago, when there were no docks, no Riachuelo port, was a 'gremio' of great importance. The Casares, of course, held the front rank, and then Nuñez, Guerrero and others. Mr. Guerrero, when we first knew him, lived in a quiet little house in Calle Mexico round the corner of Calle Defensa, within a stone's throw of Noble's grocery store, and a couple of squares from James Bell's. The STANDARD office in those days was in Calle Defensa next door to Bell's store and facing the 'paredon' of the Church of San Francisco. The whole neighbourhood in those days was intensely English. Old Don T. Drysdale lived up stairs in Vivot's, house called the "vereda ancha". There was no water supply in the town, and as Guerrero's house had a large 'algibe', the neighbours used to send round for water. A little girl in her teens always came out to give permission to take the water. She was beautiful, simple and attractive. That girl afterwards became Mrs. Alzaga. Martin Alzaga was well known in the "barrio". He knocked about in the English houses and shops and often spent an hour or two in the little STANDARD Office, telling us of his hardships in the time of Rosas, when an exile in Brazil. Although belonging to one of the richest families in the country, he had to earn his living as a 'peon' in Rio Grande, loading coffee bags in the ships. On the fall of Rosas he came in for his property; and when we knew him, he was very rich and a man about 60, tall, powerfully built. Guerrero and Alzaga were great friends, and to the astonishment of the whole "barrio", he married Miss Guerrero, who was then about 15, and they lived in Calle Venezuela in great style in a large 3 patioed house in which years afterwards the late Mr. John Drysdale resided for so many years. Mr. Alzaga had some of the finest estancias in the country, and Martin Alzaga every year took his young wife and his young children to the well known estancia "La Postrera" on the Salado. The estancia house was a fine old building with large Moorish corridors and surrounded by a natural plantation of Tala trees. The estancia was washed by the Salado for four leagues, and there were four passes across the river on the estancia. In those days there were no bridges, and the river was crossed in a "Balza" tied on to a horse's tail. We give all these particulars because they all bear upon the tragedy which the death of Mr. Guerrero revives, and which twenty-four years ago threw the whole city of Buenos Aires into mourning. On the Alzaga estancia there were numerous Irish sheep-farmers, "Medianeros", who all rose to rapid fortunes. Alzaga and his wife were beloved by all. Not far from the Alzaga estancia was the Saenz Valiente estancia, fifteen square leagues, a magnificent property, also the Martinez de Hoz estancia which was considered then the best managed property in the whole country.

Don Martin Alzaga took ill suddenly in town, and died, leaving his widow with two children. She lived in Calle Venezuela, esteemed and beloved by all, and used to pass some months with her children at her late husband's quinta on the Calle Larga, close to the Banderita, fronting Senillosa's and the Saenz Valiente quinta. Both her children died, and she herself, the owner of an immense fortune and so young a widow, was courted by many. In memory of her late husband she had built a Chapel on the estancia and had organized a great fete to welcome Dr. Escalada, the Archbishop, with Dean Dillon and others, out on the estancia to bless the church.

On the very day of her death she was busy buying things in town to send out to the estancia. She lived at the quinta in Barracas and had made all arrangements to start the next morning for the estancia.

Some say that she had a presentiment of her fate, as on the day in question she was in very low spirits, and told her servants that she could not dispel the depression. They all advised her to keep up heart and leave for the estancia, where the bracing camp air would soon revive her.

There's a time when hope deceives, and we feel
a deeper gloom.

She did everything to keep up her spirits on that day; visited friends and drove from shop to shop, but when she returned to the quinta on the Barraca road she again felt depressed, and her servants remarked that she was very sorrowful and silent.

Oh leave me to my sorrow,
For my heart is sad to-day.
Oh leave me, and to-morrrow
Dark shadows will pass away.

But that morrow for her never came.

That evening Mr. O'Campo, one of her suitors who was madly in love with her, hearing that she was off in the morning to the estancia to meet the Archbishop, and that his rival, Saenz Valiente, formed one of the party, went to the quinta to demand her hand once and for ever, as she had been putting him off for a long time, and it was generally supposed that she cared nothing for him.

He was intensely excited, and as the story goes, entered the sala, and told her that he was so madly in love with her that she must marry him right off, and that he would never allow her to marry anyone else. She, however, with much feminine courage, refused, and rising from the sofa, she was proceeding to leave the room when he took out a revolver and shot her. Saenz Valiente, who was in the house at the time, hearing the report, entered the room, and, as it was generally said, then shot Ocampo, but others insist that Ocampo when he saw her fall put the pistol to his head and blew his brains out. The veil that was thrown over the awful scene has never yet been lifted and the shudder which we all felt when the news of this tragedy spread is almost revived whenever the sad story is told. Dying without children, Mrs. Alzaga's father, Mr. Guerrero, the subject of this obituary, inherited the colossal fortune of the Alzagas. He built a magnificent house in Calle Florida next door to the Aguila, where he resided up to his death; he did more: he raised on the very spot in the quinta in Barracas where his daughter was assassinated in 1872 a Chapel of Expiation, one of the most beautiful churches in this city, "Santa Felicitas," and also an orphanage.

Mr. Guerrero died at the ripe age of 79 years.

R. I. P.

DEATH OF MR. HUMPHREY CHAMBERLAIN.

It is our paintul duty to announce the death of Mr. Humphrey Chamberlain, C. E., which occurred on Friday evening, the sad news being received here by cable yesterday. We presume that the death occurred at his residence at Norwood.

Mr. Chamberlain, who was some 51 or 52 years old, first came to the River Plate many years ago on engineering and railway business, his high abilities rapidly earning him a prominent position. When the Central Uruguay Railway was taken over by an English syndicate from the primitive native company, Mr. Chamberlain was appointed Manager, and eventually Managing Director, having earned the fullest confidence of the Board and shareholders. Under his able and careful management the Railway expanded and developed rapidly, and it was practically he who laid the foundations of the solid and successful concern that the Railway now is. Compelled by continued ill-health to abandon his post some three years ago, on his return to England he was at once given a seat on the Board, where his practical counsel snd knowledge were highly valued by his colleagues. Very recently the Uruguayan Government conferred on him the post of Honorary Inspector of Railway Material. We are unable to state the immediate cause of his death, but according to recent letters he was suffering from a severe attack of bronchitis.

Mr. Chamberlain was one of the kindest of men, and enjoyed the love as well as the respect of his subordinates on the railway, and the general esteem of the English colony here, by all of whom his death will be sincerely regretted. Whilst here he always took an active interest in the affairs of the community, which was continued by many kindly and friendly acts after his departure. He was married to Stella, daughter of the Revd. Dr. Smith, for many years rector of St. John's Church at Buenos Aires. Mrs. Chamberlain survives to lament his loss, but he leaves no family. We repeat our expressions of regret at his decease, in which we are sure all of our readers who knew him will share.—*Montevideo Times.*

INUNDATIONS IN THREE PROVINCES.

The following details have been received with regard to the inundations in Santiago del Estero, Tucuman and Rioja:

Santiago del Estero, 7th—Heavy rains this morning caused the river to overflow its banks The dams also burst with the force of the water, and inundated the surrounding country.

Dr. Aguirre, the Interventor, ordered 60 men of the 3rd infantry regiment to start for the scene of the disaster under Colonel Traga and Lieutenant Colonel Arana. The gallant soldiers worked hard all day. Large trees and rafts were placed across the broken parts of the dams to stop the torrent of water that rushed out. Some of the officers superintending the work had to ride on horseback. The principal dam was built a month ago and cost over $2,000. The chief cause of the inundation was that the earthworks of the Cuarteada Canal burst.

Two thousand men are at present working to prevent any further disaster.

Tucuman, 7th—Heavy rains have inundated several districts. Several valuable properties were damaged in Monteagudo. Part of the earthern works on the Central Cordoba Railway were washed away.

La Rioja, 7th—Tremendous rain began to fall here at 4 o'clock on Sunday and continued for 4 hours, washing away "ranchos", inundating the cellars of warehouses, and doing considerable damage all round. Governor Bustos, aided by the Post Master and a whole gang of workmen, set to work to succour distressed families.

Nearly every house in the city has suffered to some extent. No lives were lost.

THE BUTTER INDUSTRY IN ARGENTINA.

From the Boletin Industrial.

The milk industry in the Argentine Republic to-day is without doubt one of the most flourishing industries in the country. This is almost entirely due to Mr. Vicente L. Casares, one of the wealthiest and best known estancieros in the Republic. Mr. Casares had to upset many obstacles in his way, and finally Argentine butter was introduced into the London and Brazilian markets. The drought which scourged Australia in 1895 turned out to be a benefit for Argentina, as the excellence of the butter produced here called for special attention, followed by an increased demand in the London markets. Mr. Casares's example has borne good fruit, and more than one estanciero now believes his establishment to be incomplete with a dairy. Messrs Goldkuhl and Brostrom, importers of dairy machinery, find it hard to answer all the enquiries for particulars as to the profit to be obtained by Europeans starting a dairy farm in this country.

The largest dairy in this country "La Martona," in Cañuelas, belongs to Mr. Vicente Casares and has three branches, one in Ceñuelas, and the others in Tristan Suarez. One thousand three hundred kilos of butter are produced daily, part of this is consumed in the country and the rest abroad. The butter is equal to any made in the best English dairy at home. Argentine butter has now a firm place in London and Brazilian markets.

The "Scandinavia Argentina" is another large establishment, and has three large factories in Jeppener, Guerrero and Gándara, on the Southern Railway. The establishment has also factories in Altamirano, Adela and Genner. 2300 kilos of butter are produced daily, equal to 69 tons per month. Some of this is consumed here and the rest in England, Germany and Brazil. The Company exported 152,861 kilos of butter to London from September 6th to December 31st. The Company is preparing to set up further branches in other parts of the Province of Buenos Aires and expects to be able to produce 6000 kilos a day by April next. A large property has been purchased by this company, in Calle Herrera 1312, where the necessary preparations are being made to store 6000 boxes of butter, equal to about 160,000 kilos.

Another important establishment is that of Mr. Bottazzi, which has five branches, turning out 1000 kilos of butter per diem. Amongst other establishments of a similar class, are those belonging to F. Maton in Altamirano, S. Villanueva in Lezama, Lozano Hnos. and José Bossio in Las Heras, Ackerlop in Lujan, Frijoylid in Estacion Rodriguez and Mr. Aguilera in Monte Grande. The butter industry was in a very low way during 1894, but now this state of affairs is changed by Mr. Frederick Stearn's firm, which now exports the greater part of Argentine butter, exporting no less than 400 tons during the latter days of 1895, Mr. Stern has made contracts with La Martona, Escandinavia and other establishments for receiving the whole of the butter produced by them. This gentleman is also in touch with the world-wide London firm of Ellis Kislinburg and Co. 3,000,000 pounds of butter passing through their hands. England imports 150,000 tons of butter annually, which represents a sum of £16,000,000, equal to $80,000,000 gold. Mr. Stern expects to be able to export 120 tons of butter per month during the current year, increasing this to 300 tons a month next spring!

THE MARIA MORGAN HOSPITAL.

We have already advised our readers of this splendid hospital, which Mrs. Morgan of Giles is erecting in San Antonio de Areco to the memory of her beloved daughter Mary, who died in Chicago when on a tour of pleasure with her mother and two brothers, visiting the great exhibition in 1893.

As the hospital is now nearly finished and will soon be opened for patients it may interest many of our readers to know that it will be directed and managed by the nuns of the order of "The Little Company of Mary" which is a new order of nuns established in Chicago, and about which order we have received the following interesting details:—

In an unpretentious wooden house in Indiana Avenue live the Little Company of Mary. Here they came direct from Rome two years ago and took up the work of nursing the sick and comforting the sorrowful of Chicago. One of the strictest vows of the order is that no matter where or when they are called they must respond immediately. Protestant and Catholic, Gentile and Jew, rich and poor, all are the same to the little sisters. The only questions are: "Where is the sick?" What is the disease?" Should two calls for assistance come to the improvised convent at the same time, one from a wealthy patient, the other from a home of poverty, the poor is the first considered. It is understood by the sisters that the rich will be able to find aid elsewhere.

The Little Company of Mary is the only one of the order in America. It was founded by Charles A. Mair in memory of his wife, who died in Rome. In 1889 Mr. and Mrs. Mair were travelling in Europe, and when Italy was reached Mrs. Mair was taken with the Roman fever. During her prolonged illness she was cared for by the sisters of this order. Then at last death came and Mrs. Mair was buried far away from home. Under the blue Italian sky, in the Santo Remzo cemetery at Rome, she was laid away. Here the violets constantly bloom above her, and about the white cross at her head green ivy clings. But this was not a sufficiently lasting memorial. The sisters came across the sea to perpetuate her memory in the land where she was born and in the city where her married life had been spent. Mr. Mair gave the order for the little frame cottags at 4124 Indiana Avenue, and more than that, bore all the expense of bringing the reverend mother and her six assistants to Chicago.

The Little Company consists of Mother Veronica and six sisters. Two of these Sister Mary Philomena and Sister Mary Evangelist, but recently took their final vows. All them are either English or Irish women Although the mother house is in Rome the order does not number an Italian among the sisters, their work in that country being entirely among the English-speaking people. While the mission of the order is to minister to the sick, yet those who suffer from cold and hunger never ask in vain at the little home in Indiana Avenue. As long as there is a crust of bread in the house it is given freely, and then if succor is needed for others when this is gone, the sisters go out and beg it.

Although the order nurse alike among rich and poor, the nursing is not always all that is required of them in the homes of poverty. Here when it is necessary, if the mother of the family is the sick one, the care of the house and the children often falls upon the sisters. The husband and children, as well as the patient, are provided with food, and the little ones are washed and dressed and sent off to school. Often the house has to be cleaned, and many is the time that these little sisters have gone to the nearest butcher and begged beef for tea for the patient whom they are nursing. The maternal feeling is strong in all of these women, and among the little children they work with great zeal and success.

FROM THE ATLANTIC TO THE PACIFIC.

THROUGH THE ANDES IN A COW-HIDE CANOE.

THE SHIP CANAL FROM JUNIN DE LOS ANDES TO VALDIVIA.

IV

We asked the price of the boat and were told it was worth $9. We offered to pay double or even 3 times that price for it, but nothing would do. It had to be taken back, and we must acompany the Indians to their chief, who would decide our fate. After three days' work with Indians and oxen we made a road along the river bank and dragged that confounded canoe up to its place, this work costing us more than $50. We went then to the chief village, about a league away down stream, and did not again get to be our own masters until we arrived in Valdivia. Our capturers treated us fairly well and tried not to let us see we were in reality their prisoners. We were not disarmed and were allowed to go out shooting and exploring the river. It was during our 15 days' stay among these gentlemen we discovered the Cordrews fall. The number of Indians must have been about 800, living more or less in the same way as the Argentine Indians already spoken of. Their chief, whose name was Puelpan-Milimil, did not speak a word of Spanish and kept up three houses, to my knowledge, each with its one or two wives. In the one, where we first stayed, he had two, a mother and daughter. These Indians are smaller and are less civilized than the "manzaneros" at Lancar. Outside of cotton cloth and sugar, of which latter they were very fond, they made or grew everything they required. The women work harder than the men. Their food is almost purely vegetable. Relationship is very much mixed among them. Everyone appears to be a brother or uncle of everybody else, while in reality no such relationship exists. There is no intoxicating liquor made among them.

We continued our journey down river to its month at Lake Paugipulli after 10 days. The chief had sent a messenger down to Valdivia, 25 leagues away, asking the 'Intendente' or Mayor what he should do with us, with the result that we were allowed to proceed.

We went on bare back the 3 or 4 leagues to Paugipulli, where we had another long delay for want of a boat. The habits and life among these Indians "Aurocanos" I will leave for the moment and continue our journey.

A fine big dug-out was at length hired to continue our journey, and by paying one paper dollar more the King, Puelpan-Milimil, came himself to see us along safely.

The Caillitué runs into Paigupulli at its South-Eastern corner, while the river Riñihué runs out, 600 yards away from its South-Western corner. We went to examine this river, and although I have only seen a short piece of it, I believe it is much less rapid and with much more water than either the Huahuumor or Caillutué. The Indians say they run down in their canoes to Lake Riñihue, a distance of 4 leagues more or less. Knowing as I do these people, I am sure there are no great obstacles or falls, and its canalization would be easy. As to a railroad on its banks, I can say nothing but that the Andes are passed at Pirihueico, and timber covered hills would be the only drawbacks. Lake Riñihue is a little longer than Lancar. On April 17th, we finally started from Paugipulli, rowing across to the Eastern side where we went on horseback across the triangle to the Rio Calle Calle, a journey of one day over very bad roads. From this point we continued down the bank of the Calle Calle to San Pedro, where we crossed over to the Southern bank and continued our journey to Valdivia. By simply saying that large boats go up to Lake Riñihue to bring down tan bark, I need not make any remarks on the possibility of constructing a canal in this river. A railroad was under construction from Valdivia to Villarica and ran up the South bank of this river to San Pedro.

The state of my arrival will be left over to my next, as also my experiences in Valdivia before getting some new clothes. I will simply say we were a very disreputable crew to look at, as we rode into the city on bare-back.

I have had occasion to see Kincaid, Costa and Company's map of their proposed railroad, and that they had elected the very spot to cross the "divortia aquarum" mentioned in the first part of this letter. I have crossed the Andes in the Uspallata pass and have seen the Transandine Railway in construction. I am not an Engineer, but nevertheless I am positive that a road could be laid here to the Pacific coast at a tenth part of the cost of the Trasandine line running through the Uspallata pass. True, it is not so direct nor would it run through such a populated country, but it would be cheaper and easier laid, and as the soil and climate are far superior to the soil and climate of the North, once having a way of communication the population would soon come of itself. We bring timber from North America to B. Ayres. Why not think for a moment of the immense advantages of getting timber from the Andes?

A ship canal in the present day would not pay, but I hope to live to see a good canal built and paying a handsome dividend to its shareholders.

My note-book gives me lots more to write about; but you asked me to make this short, and my notes will keep.

Until another spare moment.

Yours,

Canada.

LATEST FROM BOLIVIA.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Sucre, Dec, 14th, 1895.

Dear Mr. Editor:

When I wrote you last, on Saturday the 7th inst., the treaty with Chile was still in abeyance, there being 35 in favour and 33 against it. Of course so transcendental a matter could not be decided by so small a majority, and all kinds of influence were brought to bear on the self-styled patriotic minority to induce them to yield. That same night the Treaty was passed with modifications. Particulars have not as yet oozed out, as to the terms of the alterations or the names of those who still remained in the minority, which it is known had by that time diminished to one-third. The Chilian Minister accepted the modifications "ad referendum".

I fear that there are no Sabbatarians in Bolivia, or they would have turned up the whites of their eyes considerably, seeing that the Bolivian Government, the Chilian Legation and the Chilian Cabinet spent all Sunday sending and receiving cablegrams. First, Chile would accept no modifications; secondly, Matta resigned; thirdly, Chile sent to tell her minister not to be d—— f——, but to push the affair through; fourthly and lastly, secret conference of Matta with President, Ministers and Congress, the result of which was and is the acceptance of the Treaty swallowed whole, with only two dissentients, on the next day, Monday, Dec. 9th.

Wasn't it the ancient Biglow who declared the goodness of Providence in that it had

Made Deputies holler
That they might better their principles
swaller—

or words to that effect?

The names of the Bolivian Abdiles are: Leon of Oruro and Jordan of Potosi. The body of the public men of Bolivia may now sing with the heretical English Methodists—

Now we can climb Arica's hill
And view the seascape o'er,
Not Leon's roar nor Jordan's yell
Shall fright us from the shore".

As the future President of this Republic has not, as far as I know, had a chance of getting into a scrape on English soil, why is it, one would like to know, that he objects to our Queen having a right to invite any one from Bolivia to eat skilly and pick oakum in one of her hotels where plank beds are to be enjoyed gratis? Surely he has no hope or fear of such an invitation.

Some three and a half years ago an extradition treaty was made in Lima by the Bolivian representative there with the British Minister on behalf of our Government. Said treaty was approved in England, signed by the Queen, and sent here for ratification by the Congress and the President. But Congress has not had a chance of thus beginning friendly relations with England, and thereby benefitting the country by the introduction of English capital, which would doubtless follow, because the gentleman alluded to has used his great influence to burk the said treaty! "Parece que aqui hay gato encerrado".

Exchange 21¼d, likely to fall to 21d.

Naval Captains Lawry and Lartigue have been respectively named President and Fiscal of the Court Martial that is to try Lieutenant Thorne, the second in command of the 25 de Mayo.

LATEST FROM CARMEN DE ARECO.

DEATH OF MR. CASEY.

9th Jan. 1896.

Dear Sir,

It is with great sorrow that I have to announce the death of an old and highly respected inhabitant of this neighbourhood, namely, Mr. Edward Casey, of the "Arroyo Luna," who departed this life on the 7th inst., surrounded by his numerous and sorrowing family.

He died at his son-in-law's (Mr Neville's) house in Salto, where for the last six months he had been gradually passing away, attended by members of his family, who, with affectionate care and solicitude, nursed him to the last.

Mr. E. Casey's character was so well known that it would be useless for me to say much on the subject, beyond a few words.

He was the soul of honour and integrity, and a most intelligent conversationalist. He had by his industry and foresight amassed a considerable fortune, so leaving his family in comfortable circumstances.

His unbounded hospitality was proverbial; aad one like the writer, who has passed so many happy hours in his company, can with truth say—"Peace to his ashes". Older friends he had, but, perhaps, none who more appreciated his sterling qualties.

The funeral, as was to be expected, was largely attended. People came from far and near to follow him to his last resting place.

Tending my deepest sympathy to his sorrowing family,

I remain,

Yours truly,

E. A. E.

LATEST FROM PUNTA ARENAS.

Punta Arenas is going ahead like most young and vigorous populations. The latest census puts down the total inhabitants of this fertile spot at 3141, comprised of 1904 men and 1237 women. Nearly the whole population is Chilian. There is very little sickness in the town; this is due to the improvement in the sanitary works, which are now much better.

The news published by a Chilian paper, giving an account of slaughter of Indians, is entirely false. The true statement is, that a band of Indians were caught stealing cattle, and some of them were shot on the spot while trying to resist capture. Moreover, they had previously murdered some prisoners and cruelly ill-treated others; so that their fate was well deserved.

A few days ago a band of Indians mutilated 300 sheep by cutting off their legs!!

LATEST FROM JUJUY.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Jujuy, Jan. 2nd., 1896.

To the Editor of the STANDARD.

Dear Sir,

Nothing of much moment has happened here since my last. As I suspected, our great strategic road is more or less a farce. They have scratched a sort of a track for about two or three leagues and, on account of the rains, have now left off work till August, so they say, although there are no rains up here after March. Our rainy season has begun, and the few showers we have had have left the road in a beautiful condition, and I do not think that even a bicycle could go over it, much less artillery and commissariat wagons.

There was a report the other day that Dr. Rocha was on his way back via La Quiaca, but now there is a rumour that he returns via Chile, the Andes and Mendoza, which is certainly the best route in this season, as the road down the Humahuaca Valley is now impassable for a coach on account of the late rains.

It is said that his mission has been successful, but I do not understand how that can be in the face of the treaty concluded between Chile and Bolivia. However, rumour says that the treaty referred to contains a clause by which Argentina's rights to the Pastos Grandes section and the Puna de Atacama are recognized.

The mining industry here has just commenced to awake again after a long rest of four years. A syndicate has rented the properties of a Buenos Aires Company and has just got the small Huntington quartz mill in working order again. At the moment the mill is working, and the syndicate expect to have a clean up next week, when it is to be hoped that the result will prove favourable.

Yours truly,

Sluice Box.

OVATION TO MOTHER FINDLAY.

Since the departure three years ago of the popular lady Superior, the Hon. Mrs. Fitzgerald, nothing has been seen in this city to equal the demonstration of love and respect at the Central Railway station on Friday night, when Mothers Findlay, Gildmartin, a French lady and two postulants left for Chile.

As the hour for the train approached there was positively no standing room on the platform, ladies and gentlemen of the first native and foreign circles in town and suburbs forsaking their half-cooked dinners to get a parting glance at the quiet pale face of one or other of the fair travellers.

Mother Findlay was driven from the Convent to the Station in private carriage and pair by Mr. and Mrs. Norton to whose charming daughter she has been in very truth a second mother.

Mrs H. Duggan and Miss Catherine Kelly were equally attentive to Mother Guild Martin, a highly accomplished American lady of Irish parents resident here some five years.

The rest followed in irregular order and as best they could.

One postulant, a Dublin girl, was driven down by the family with which she had lived as governess during 13 years. The other, a Miss Marenco, was cared for by her family until the last second moment arrived, nor did the French nuns lack friends amongst "les enfants de Marie." To-day they should be resting in Mendoza in the Convent of the "Good Shepherds," whose Revd. Mother was

educated at one of the schools of the "Sacred Heart" Order, and who telegraphed to offer the hospitalities of her house to the religious travellers immediately on learning that they had chosen the overland route. The orders from Paris were for the nuns to take the first Pacific steamer from Montevideo, but it was feared by the physicians here that Mother Findlay could not stand the sea voyage in the present delicate state of her health. On the other hand it is hoped that the air and scenery of the Andes will revive her failing strength, this gifted lady's numerous friends here having arranged to petition per telegraph for a rescission of the decree of separation until persuaded by the faculty that some such trip was imperatively necessary to save her delicate frame from the terrible effects of overwork in the class-room, midnight prayer and daily fasting. The railway accommodation on both sides of the Andes is not to be beaten the world over, but the six hour's journey on muleback at the summit will be a regular tug-of-war for delicate ladies. Bur our readers may be certain that all that loving care can suggest or dollars supply will be done for the comfort and safety of the travellers, whose fate is already pretty well secure if heartfelt prayers count for anything in this "vale of tears."

Three of Madame Findlay's brothers are Jesuit priests, whilst two of her sistars are nuns like herself. Such devotion to religion could not be found surely outside of the "Island of Saints" and speaks eloquently of the spirit of a people that are to-day more respected in adversity than many of their more pretentious neighbours after basking for centuries in unalloyed prosperity.

Madame Nerecan of Barcelona is now in charge of the Calle Callao house assisted by Mothers Power, Killmurray and others to numerous to mention. Still it is not to much to say that they must all be ladies of the first order in intellect and accomplishments to be able to part with so many and such brilliant colleagues at a moment when the New Year's work is about to open with increased vigour and popularity.

F. H. M.

NOTES FROM SUIPACHA.

Jan. 5th, 1896.

Several respectable Irish neighbours ("arrendatarios") have lately taken leave of their friends here and in Mercedes and have gone to try their luck at sheep-farming in the district of Chacabuco; and, since camp-rents are said to be some 25 per cent. lower out there than they are in or about Suipacha and Mercedes, there is every hope that these "arrendatarios" will achieve successful results.

I cannot refrain from saving that in recording the decampment of said "arrendatarios" I am influenced by a feeling of awakened hopefulness. At first sight this diction seems like "Ballarat bluff," and entirely out of place. But it is nothing of the kind. Just wait a little. Well, as for several years it has been my pleasant privilege to be personally acquainted with most of the sheepfarmers in the partidos of Mercedes and Suipacha, I think I may, without any vanity whatever, say that I know how the "running-gear" looms in these camps. I know that rack-renters have long been unmercifully scourging their struggling "arrendatarios"; I know that the latter resolved to "grin and bear it" for reasons which I shall not here express; I know, too, that the steps taken by the enterprising "arrendatarios" who have gone to Chacabuco will lead to a reduction of camp rents here and in Mercedes; and, finally, I know that it is more than likely that other "arrendatarios" on these inside camps will ere long follow the good example set them by their enterprising colleagues, by moving to the outside camps of this extensive and fertile province. Here, then, lies the secret of my "feeling of awakened hopefulness".

So far, the camps of this district are good, and the animals thereon are in prime condition.

From 12.30 a.m. till about 3.45 a.m. this morning it rained heavily here.

"Adios! y hasta otro dia!"

W. H. G.

THE TERRITORY OF CHUBUT.

The following news from this fast growing and important territory in the South will no doubt be read with interest. The present population of Chubut is 3748 souls, classified in the following manner:—Boys and girls up to 5 years of age, 323 and 319 respectively; 418 boys and 399 girls between the ages of 6 and 14 years. Other ages: 1486 men and 814 women.

Condition:—Unmarried men 845, ditto women 352, married men 597, married women 597, widowers 72, widows 59.

Nationality:—Argentines 2205, English 1142, Italians 165, Spaniards 40, Chilians 103, various 93.

Landed proprietors:— Argentines 42, Foreigners 379.

Know how to read and write:—1915, 1520 do not know either.

Religions: — 1376 Catholics and 2372 Protestants.

The number of Indians is 735.

There are 833 houses representing a total value of $798,298. Two canals value $280,000. Six mills value $40,000. 10 threshing machines value 84,109. 166 reaping machines value $741,100. 123 rakes value $6,150. 399 ploughs value $19,950. Horses 13,144 value $395,620. 27,220 head of cattle value $139,120. 56,147 sheep value $112,294. 467 mules value $18,280 1241 pigs value $4,974. 9015 head of poultry value $3,005. 300 vehicles value $118,600.

Real estate: — 28396 hectares value $851,530. Out of this 4700 hectares produce 7000 tons 631,740 valued at 270 hectares of barley producing 8875 tons, value $37,000.

Business houses:— 141 with a capital of $3,986,373.

Industrial houses:—18 firms with a capital of $86,000.

Camp:—320 leagues placed by sections representing a total of $640,000; 20 leagues sold at $2,000 per league $40,000; 150 leagues colonited by the South Argentine London Company at $2,500 each, total $375,000.

50 leagues colonised in Colonia 10 de Octubre at $2,500 per league $125,000.

9180 leagues of Government lands at $200 plus cost of surveying 2500 leagues equals $4,968,000. The total wealth of Chubut thus amounts to $14,016,295.23.

SOUTHERN TERRITORIES.

A correspondent from the Colonia 16 de Octubre writes to say that the arrival of the Governor of Chubut there will be a step towards the progress and rapid development of those distant districts. The Governor of Chubut has been greatly impressed with the necessities of those budding towns, and the tour he made of 200 leagues will serve to show him what remains to be done, or rather what should have been done long ago to make Chubut a flurishing centre of agriculture, as the resources of this territory are simply enormous.

The Indians, who number about 400, are not so terrible as they are painted. The proof of this is that they have limited their misdeeds to the stealing of a few head of cattle and horses.

The Governor is going to try a new course of diplomacy and make the Indians friendly with the population instead of being the death enemy of the white man. The Governor of Chubut came down here with a small escort comprising 2 sergeants and 5 gendarmes. This together with 27 gallant Welshmen will be quite sufficient to awe the Indians and prevent any further raids. Amongst the Indians who are giving trouble the names of Lalvo and Lalpú, two famous capitanejos and deadly enemies of the white men. These two Indians murdered three Welsh colonists some few ysars ago. The scene of the slaughter is now called "Valle de los Mártires."

The celebrated "gaucho" Acensio has been captured at last. This man was the terror of Chubut and Santa Cruz colonists, and his deeds of daring were something astounding. For 8 years he was the king of the vast and solitary Pampa. He used to ride about on horseback, clad in nothing but lion skins, and would suddenly swoop down on some unoffending colonist and cary off cattle, horses and in fact everything he could lay his bloodstained hands on. He used to exercise a great authority over the Indians, by making them pay a certain tribute to him in the shape of cattle, horses and mules. Carlos V. Burmeister, the well known Santa Cruz explorer, was once robbed of his horses, guns and ammunition by the daring Acencio.

The glory of having captured this celebrated bandit is due to cacique Canghel, who secured Ascencio about a hard fight near Jenua. Canghel's companions wanted to sacrifice Asencio after and then, but the bandit's life was spared and he is now in the safe keeping of the Governor of Chubut.

LIFE INSURANCE IN BRAZIL.

To the Editor of
THE STANDARD,

Dear Sir:

In the *Review of the River Plate* of the 11th instant, I find an article about the American Lite Insurance Companies in Brazil, which, without apparent animosity, is not just either to Brazil or to the Equitable. In view of the close relations existing between the Editor of *The Review* and the New York Life, I cannot question the accuracy of his information regarding the experience of the latter Company in Brazil; but he is certainly misinformed so far as relates to the experience of the Equitable, and it seems to me advisable to correct some of the erroneous impressions made by the article in question.

I was on the spot during the whole discussion of the recent legislation which resulted in driving the two American companies out of Brazil. I read everything that was published about the matter, and I have always been in a position to know the facts.

In the first place, I do not think that it was the intention of the public powers of Brazil to expel the American companies.

Although the Head Officers of the New York Life declared from the first to the Head Officers of the Equitable, that the New York Lite would not comply with the law, but would retire if it should be passed, the representatives of the New York Life in Brazil always pretended that their Company would comply and not retire. They supported the measure from the first, and even went so far as to secure, publish and present to Congress signatures of more than three hundred of their own policyholders in favour of the legislation. The public powers naturally supposed that, if the New York Life was willing to comply with the law, there was no reason why the Equitable should not do the same.

The native companies did not ask for the law. Dr. Magalhaes, President of "A Educadora", the most important Brazilian Company, declared in the press that it was not his company that was paying so much to push the law through, and that it suited their interests better to compete with serious foreign companies which gave credit to the business, rather than to compete with such national companies, incapable of living, as would be organized if the American companies should retire.

The *Review* was misinformed also about the American Companies being obliged to considerably raise their premium tables. In fact, the New York Lite did in December 1893, propose to the Equitable an increase of 10 % in the rates throughout South America, but the Equitable did not agree to the proposition, and did not increase its rates then, or since, in Brazil. The experience of tha Equitable has not proved the necessity of such increase. On a considerable number of 15-year Tontine policies issued in Brazil in 1879 and maturing in 1894, the results, taking into account the premiums received and the mortality experienced, enabled the Equitable to return to the surviving holders of these policies more than the extra premium paid by them for tropical residence, in addition to the returns on similar policies issued in the United States.

So far as the Equitable is concerned, it is a mistake to say that its business was reduced in recent years to a mere exchange speculation. The question of effecting assurances in the paper money of Brazil was thoroughly considered by the Equitable before beginning operations in that currency, and a sate basis was arranged so that "its" representatives in Brazil have never found it necessary to engage in exchange speculations in order to save themselves or the Company from loss. The Equitable kept, and keeps in Brazilian currency a working balance sufficient to meet maturing obligations for claims and expenses, remitting the accruing surplus at regular intervals for safe investment in funds of steady value. It is stipulated in the policy contracts that, in apportioning the surplus at the end of the Tontine, or accumulation, period of 15 or 20 years, the profits and losses arising from the fluctuations in exchange shall be taken into account. If the currency should appreciate in value, the surplus or profits would be correspondingly reduced, but the assured would be amply compensated by the enhanced value of the currency in which the principal or reserve and surplus would be payable, and vice-versa. In Brazil this enhancement would be understood and appreciated, because all prices there so quickly adjust themselves to the gold value of the circulating medium, due to the fact that Brazil exports the greater part of what it produces, and imports the greater part of what it consumes. Investment in funds of unstable value would certainly be speculation; but the immediate conversion of the surplus income from an unstable to a stable currency and safe investment therein, cannot properly be called a mere exchange speculation.

The *Review's* information regarding the excessive mortality in Brazil should be and probably is correct so far as the New York Life is concerned, but it is positiuely incorrect so far as it relates to the experience of the Equitable. As to yellow fever, it costs the Equitable less in Brazil than influenza in the River Plate. In 1894, the worst year for yellow-fewer in Rio, the Equitable experienced only one loss from that disease in Brazil, and three losses from influenza in the River Plate, where it has only about one half as many outstanding risks as in Brazil.

So far as the Equitable is concerned, it is not a fact wel lknown or otherwise that a large number of person have been insured without undergoing the usual medical examination. Neither is it true that the Equitable's losses in Brazil are assuming alarming proportions. The death-claims paid by the Equitable in Brazil during the year just closed, amounted to only Sixteen per cent (16%) of the premiums received, or less than Nine per mil (9 ‰) of the sum assured. Even on business so recent as that of the Equitable in Brazil, such mortality is the contrary of alarming, and indicates careful selection of risks with probability of profitable results to the surviving policyholde.

As to the foreign companies making an effort to have the prohibitive laws repealed during the next session of the legislature, that is highly improbable. The Equitable frankly opposed the proposed law so long as under discussion, bnt it will make no effort to have it annulled in the Courts or repealed by Congress. The New York Life will hardly take the trouble to have undone that which cost them or their representatives so much to have done, especially since their new uncalled Brazilian company, "A Sul America," is already issuing policies on forms engraved and printed in New York on paper containing the watermark of the New York Life

Yours truly,
T. T. Watson.

LETTERS FROM THE RIO SALADO.

V

Hurrah! Our canoe floats once more on the waters of the Salado. And these waters are deep, clear, sweet to drink, without any taste of salt about them and covered with water, lilies and other aquatic weeds, below which, in countless numbers, jolly and succulent fishes play about.

I will unravel this mystery.

The Grumblers' grumbling I spoke of in my last was prophetic. Although, going higher up the Calchaqui, we succeeded in finding what might be called drinkable water, that fluid was of bad quality, and of little use save in a medicinal way. Game was scarce. Then the river became shallower and shallower, till at last we found it utterly impossible to drag the heavy canoe, loaded as it is with impedimenta and furs, farther up.

The motion to come back to the Salado was carried by unanimous vote.

This done, we observed with surprise that the Salado is only a salado below its junction with the Calchaqui. The salt in its waters is due to their mixture with the bitter, nasty, nauseous and purgative physic that flows in the bed of the last named river. But, as I said, northwards from that point, the water of the Rio Salado is perfectly sweet. It is the best water we have drunk for many a day.

* * *

And now we are again spending one of those (to me) delightful veillées, stretched around the camp fire in lazy attitudes, dreaming or conversing, but this last only seldom and deliberately. Behind us is the dark and impenetrable monte, at our feet the river. The fireflies are dancing and shooting about, spinning their tanciful webs of green or red light along in the darkness of the trees. Numberless insects are humming all round. From time to time there is a rustling sound in the thickness of the forest,—some carpincho or may be a pecari going about his business.—From the far off desert comes faintly the "yap yap" of the aguaras and the roar of the ostriches.

* * *

Some days ago, we left behind us the last "rancho" of the last estancia on the Indian frontier, a nice clean "rancho" built of palm-stems, inhabited—but this is an euphemism, for its owner seems to think like the Irishman that a house is "a place to go in when it rains"—by an honest "Guarani" speaking Correntino, his helpmate, a horde of sons, daughters and dogs, ostriches, a young ant-eater and an "aguará".—(By the way I must inform the uninitiated that the "aguará" is a red wolf of a large size, common enough in the Chaco. We shall have more to do with him)—We spent a day there, and Mr. Fritz beamed all over from dawn till night-fall, eating authentical beef, and "chocio", and "locro", and biscuit and, between whiles, sucking "mate" with sugar in it.

I thought our hosts would appreciate my adding fish to the fare, and in half an hour caught a dozen nice "dorados". But the old man only said: "You can eat them if you like. As for us, we take to that kind of "bicho" only when we have nothing else."

He had just received a lot of provisions, and shared with us in the most open-handed manner. He would n't accept of any money, he said he had no use for it. But skins, especially "carpinchos" skins, of which we had a good provision, and also the hide of a large ant-eater, found favour in his eyes.

* * *

We are full of enthusiasm. We smoke real tobacco, and, what is more important to the Grumblers, we have a provision of biscuit. Indeed, it is a singular thing to see how they crave for vegetable food. We tried to satisfy them with the inside, the marrow so to speak, of the dwarf palm-trees I spoke of in my last letter, which ('t is n't the letter I mean) is by no means to be despised. It tastes rather like turnip. But they would n't be satisfied with that. They imagined to put into the boiling pot heaps of a large, ill-flavoured, bushy weed—a kind of Chaenopodium it seems to be—absolutely destitute of taste, but fortunately quite harmless. And they ate it with relish.

But now they acknowledge that biscuit is better. They have been seen to smile and even heard to laugh, whilst handling the furs of nutrias and carpinchos, or the feathers of garzas, with dreams, no doubt, of wealth to come. They are brimful of ardour. When the skipper said:

"Now I hope we are all agreed to push northwards as far as we can", the Otterkiller shouted: "En avant!" and Mr Fritz: "Vorwaerts!"

* * *

Our skipper made a bold attempt yesterday. He had long wanted to penetrate into the recesses of the dense 'monte', which is really a marvell of vegetation—too much of a marvel said the skipper afterwards—and, seeing one that was only a hundred and fifty to two hundred yards wide, he took the compass and said.

"Now I mean to see what it is made of inside. Surely there must be carpinchos and pecares. You wait for me on the other side. Come along, Jules!"

But Jules quietly squatted down on his tail, looking steadfastly at his master as if to say:

"If you'll believe me, I've tried that game before, and won't do it again. Don't you be a fool."

The skipper entered the forest alone, and soon was lost to sight. We went round the corner and waited.

We waited fully an hour, hearing nothing but the usual mysterious rustlings till, at last, our skipper emerged, slowly crawling on all fours. But he was a changed man, his clothes were torn, blood was spouting everywhere; and we could see that beneath the blood his face looked scared and pale.

Said kind Mr. Fritz: "Sit down, you look tired.

"I can't sit down just now, I must first extract the biggest....O! I am full of thorns, I am as prickly as ever was sea-urchin or "tuna."—Go and fetch the kettle and things, we'll have a "mate" and a pipe and rest a little...."

"Well, I've had a fright, and no mistake. I was n't long in that wood before I had to go on all fours, then to drag myself along on the ground. The ground! ..by Josaphat! It's rather like a harrow turned upside down everywhere. I had to crawl over or under fallen trees. And everything is as full of prickles as a hedgehog. There are "caraguatas" in all parts, with their sharp spiny leaves, there are "Cereus", like candlesticks twelve feet high, and many another kinds of Cactus, and it's quite dark among the trees; I felt like a midge travelling inside a watch. And it is full of insects and spiders that perambulate over one. Sometimes I heard noises in the thicket, but confound it! I could'nt even lift my head to have a look, I was sure to knock it against some thorny thing. And when at last I thought I was nearly out of the wood and was about to halloo, what did I do but grasp at a kind of smooth brown-black thing hanging from a branch, I thought it was a blooming liana. But bless your hearts! It wasn't blooming at all. It scuttled away like an iguana when there are dogs about. It was an ampalagua, a boa. I don't know whether he was frightened, I know I was. By George! I couldn't even start backwards, nor pull out my knife or disentangle the Old Traveller before he was off. I bet you it interfered sadly with my digestion. I'm sure I wanted to cry a little, but as I hadn't room to sit down nor to take out my handkerchief, I gave it up. "No more forest travelling for me thankyou I'll be..unblessed! if I try it again. You try it a little. I'll go by water."

The caragrata of which I have spoken several times, is a plant of the ananas family, a Bromelia, with small purple flowers growing on a fleshy expansion of the stalk. It is common in the "montes". Its numerous leaves surround a cavity which always contains pure water, a precious resource in the desert.

VI.

"Rich and rare are the goods in the store
And every day ther' coming more..."
The Metropole's Poet
"Standard" of the 21st Dec. 95.

O! Mr. Fritz! Mr. Fritz! You have much to answer for! I am glad you have eaten too many "tunas" this morning and feel unwell, for I hope it will make "you seriously reflect on the sinfulness of guttling and guzzling."

Thus speaks the skipper in a sad and stern voice, as, sitting in the rain before the fire, we are trying to dry ourselves, the vapour rising in thick clouds from our clothes and mingling with the smoke.

* * *

Yesterday the skipper announced, to cheer up the crew under the burning afternoon's sun, that, supposing his reckoning to be correct, we were but a few miles distant from Fortin Hernan Cortez.

There are several such forts along the Rio Salado—F. Aguará, F. Union, F. Hernan Cortez, F. Pizarro, F. Centinela etc,—utterly deserted ruins, with hardly four crumbling walls left standing, half hidden by the invading vegetation. F. Hernan Cortez is among the least decayed. We found in it a small bench which the Grumblers carried off in triumph, glorious to sit down again on a real seat, like gentlemen.

But these ancient strongholds have an interest of another kind for us. When they were built the soldiers surrounded them with hedges of the thorny cactus known as "tuna," as is customary to do in order to repel Indian attacks, and the fruit of these plants is a welcome change in our too nitrogenous daily fare.

Now Mr. Fritz holds this delicacy in high esteem, and when he heard that a short distance separated us from a spot where we should be likely to find a plantation of it, he warmly proposed to push on, although it was late and a storm was evidently brewing.

When we reached the fort darkness had set in, the storm had burst, and rain was pouring down in the style it affects in South America. While the crew was cutting up for supper a "gama" we had killed, the captain lit a fire with great difficulty, then, declaring he would go and fetch more wood, vanished and was seen no more. It was late in the night when, by the glare of the lightning, he was spotted out at the bottom of a ditch into which he had fallen, and where, ashamed to cry out, he had whiled away his time by clawing at the sides of the hole, fumbling darkly about in the mud and water at the bottom, and making a lamentable object of himself.

This is why his language is sad and impressive in the morning. We shall have to spend the day in drying ourselves, our furs and in fact almost everything on board.

* * *

This is not the first time—nor will it be the last—that I allude to our menu. I make no apology for it, for this hankering after questions gastronomical is noticeable in the writings of most tourists. It is in travel that man is reminded that he is of the flesh, fleshy, and that the soul's wings are apt to moult in such a way that he will surely prefer a fat 'mulita' or 'mataco' to....let us say an eloquent sermon or an amateur concert.

Besides, oh you who have partaken of strange dishes, who have eaten shark, or locusts, or crocodile's tail, did you not feel it your duty to inform your fellow-men of the fact, were it only to teach them what is good, and is not?

It is also an article of faith with travellers to draw a list of the victims they have slain on their way, without forgettin a single one (rather the contrary.) I shall not do so, but some animals here are characteristic, they are, so to speak a feature of the Salado, and I should not forgive myself attempting a description of that river without talking about them.

I have touched some words about nutrias and carpinchos....One word, but one only, about ducks and geese: As far as their numbers go, a collectioner would find himself wallowing in bliss here, so countless are their species. For the first fortnight, almost every duck we killed, and we killed many, belonged to a kind we had not seen before.

* * *

At every bend of the river mostly stands some melancholic heron, or garza, motionless, seemingly philosophising in deep and dreary meditation, but in reality keenly watching for some fish to pass within reach. It is not difficult to kill that bird, for whilst intent upon the doings of the canoa, it ponders whether it were not advisable to fly away, one of us, by a flank movement, comes unawares from the barranca and brings it down.

We vote that fowl deserves the honours of the pot, especially when boiled with rice.

The same may be said of a bird somewhat like a cormorant, the "maca". I do not know its real name, it belongs to the family of the Steganopoda, that is, the web of its feet unites not only the three anterior toes, but the whole four of them.

Wherever a branch of a tree extends close above the surface of the river, you may be sure to see three, four, five or more of these "macas" perched on it in a row, their up right black bodies immoveable, while they patiently watch the water below. They are an easy shot.

It is usual in England not to shoot a bird except on the wing, to give, they say, the poor fellow a chance. We have no such notions of chivalry or mockery, whichever you'll call it; we are like Cromwell in Ireland, we subordinate flimsy principles of honour to the welfare of the host.

Near lagunas often sounds the shriek of the "chara" (Chauna chavarria,) as large as a Turkey, with a song shriller and harsher than a peacock's, though less melodious. Each wing is provided with two sharp spurs, of which the Otterkiller made a painful experience, for, having wounded one of these birds, he innocently went to bag it, and was rewarded by a deep cut in the leg.

We don't like that fowl much. Strange to say, its flesh has exactly the colour and the taste of lean old cow. Such a bird, I am told, is tamed in the Western provinces and kept in the capacity of a sheep-dog for poultry.

Shall I talk about flamingoes, ibis, "spatulas, ajajas, etc," or fishes or tortoises and their eggs, or 'mulitas' and "ma tacos, gamas", pecaris and ant-eaters?.... Surely you know of them as much as I do, gentlemen! and the STANDARD would think I were "meaandering" even more than does the Rio Salado itself.

As for the large lizard they call "iguana" (though it is not the true, green Brazilian iguana), we made a discovery. It is customary among 'gauchos' to eat only the tail of the animal. But one morning, as I had killed two of them "pour tout potage", I imagined to roast, or rather broil them entire. Since that day we disdain the tail and prefer a joint to it.

* * *

I have heard about ants, bees and wasps, who have brought up socialism to a pitch of perfection such as was never even dreamed of by the apostles of the faith. But I did not know that spiders lived in colonies. Yet they do. All along the shores of the river there are immense webs inhabited, each of them, by numerous spiders. When the weather is fair, each of these takes it appointed (?) station in the web and watches for mosquitoes, for which we are thankful. When they go to rest, they congregate, clutching at one another with all their legs so as to form an almost solid ball as big as the fist.

They are beautiful spiders, deep black, with white and scarlet markings.

Often, when we walk through the bush we carry over with us portions of colonies. But they are not resentful.

It would have been a treat to be with us to astronomer Lalande, who never saw a spider but he ate it with relish. Here he would have had many a full meal.

T. Chapuis.

THE CLOSURE OF CONGRESS.

There is something very remarkable in the closing of Congress, since it was unattended by any of the usual formalities on such occasions. There was no decree of the President closing the session, no speech from the Minister thanking the Senators and Deputies for their abnegation and patriotism in sitting so long after the legal term of the session prescribed by the Constitution. The session seems to have expired in a sort of fainting fit, since it appears that the Deputies had not only not closed their sittings, but were busily employed in discussing some important measures, when the house adjourned for the usual quarter hour of rest, but that quarter of an hour is destined to hold good for four months, as the Deputies have dispersed, and there is not now in the city a sufficient number to form a quorum.

Such an extraordinary termination of the session may be said to somewhat correspond with the character of its labours since, if we never before had such an unusual wind up, so also have we rarely had a parliamentary term so secret and so sterile.

It has been said by some deep thinkers that a country or a nation always has the Government it deserves, and this doctrine, though harsh enough, has been accepted as so true that it has passed into an aphorism.

The collapse, therefore, of Congress and the rather discreditable wind-up of the session caused by this general skedaddle of both Senators and Deputies may, after all, be only what the country deserves, since, if more care were taken by the people in the election of Congress members, possibly a better or superior class of men would constitute our Parliament and the country would be saved from its present humiliation.

In most countries the character of the people determines the character of its Legislature, but in Argentina it is not so; and indeed judging by the debates in the house, and a short and hurried retrospect of the last session, it is very hard to say what the Argentine Congress does represent.

And the conduet of the Deputies in clearing out in such an extraordinary manner does not correspond with any feature that we know of Argentine character.

It is presumed that the Sugar Bounty Bill was the proximate cause of the whole hegira, and that sooner than pass this monstrous Bill the minority resolved to leave the House without a "quorum," and thus postpone the measure until next session. Some allowance also must be made for the Provincial Deputies, who are so far away from their distant homes and so anxious to return before the summer is over.

A GREAT ANNIVERSARY.

January, 18th

This day twenty-five years ago, in the smoke of the guns from the German batteries and from the ramparts and forts of Paris, representatives of all the German States met in the Gallerie des Glaces of the Palace of Versailles and proclaimed King William of Prussia Emperor of Germany. The sceptre so proudly carried by the Salier, the Franken, the Hohenstaufen, so pusillanimously cast away by a Habsburg in a historic moment of unpardonable weakness, was placed in the hands of the Hohenzollern, the fortunate and heroic descendant of the proud Brandenburger Kurfürst who on the very same day, one hundred and seventy years before, rivetted to his brows the crown of Prussia.

Germans celebrate to-day a national jubilee. The 18th of January of 1871 closed in the history of Germany what may be termed a lengthy interrenum and marked in the history of the world the resumption of the old German Empire tradition—rent asunder by French victories and consolidated after many years by French defeats. That the Fates should have signalled a Hohenzollern for the historic event, not a Habsburg, may be traced to events beyond the control of man, as sincerely believed by the present young Emperor of Germany. But in the eyes of a practical world, making all due allowance for providential influences, the German Empire is the result of a national aspiration personnified in the giant genius of one man—Bismarck. In fact this jubilee celebration by Germans all over the world is the apotheosis of the Man of Blood and Iron, whose name rings through the world like a sledgehammer blow on the mighty anvil of German Unity

The German residents of the Plate celebrate the great anniversary to-day in the Pabellon Argentina with the patriotic enthusiasm so pronounced in all their national feasts. The old site of the Retiro Barracks with its pretty Pavilion will to-night be turned into a piece of Germany on the banks of the Spree or the Rhine. The program is most enticing, and proceedings will begin in the gardens at 8.30 p.m. President Roca will attend.

THE ALZAGA TRAGEDY.

We have to thank a fair subscriber for the following respecting the Alzaga tragedy to referred the other day:—

One summer evening Felicita, one of Mr. Guerrero's daughters, was standing at the door of her house in Calle Mejico, when it suddenly began to rain. At this moment a handsome, middle aged gentleman (Martin Alzaga) happened to pass by: seeing the beautiful girl standing at the door he stopped, and making a profound bow asked her could he take shelter from the rain. Miss Guerrero immediately acceded to the stranger's request. At the same time the young girl's mother came forward and asked him to go inside to the general sitting room where the family were assembled. A long conversetion followed in which Mr. Alzaga asked his beautiful companion her name and age. Shortly afterwards he bade Mr. and Mrs. Guerrero good bye, thanking them for the hospitality he had received. Mr. Alzaga made his appearance next days to the surprise of the whole family. In the course of a general conversation, Mr. Alzaga jokingly remarked that he was looking for a wife and also hinted that he was well off. Miss Guerrero laughed at this and at other funny remarks. But the laughter turned into surprise and then astonishment when Mr. Alzaga rose, took off the long gold chain he wore and, stooping over Miss Felicita Guerrero threw it round her neck, telling Mr. and Mrs. Guerrero that he had chosen their beautiful and accomplished daughter as his wife. The earnest tones in which Mr. Alzaga uttered these words, his high position in Buenos Aires, backed up by enormous wealth, convinced the girl's parents that he was in earnest, and they consented to the marriage, which took place next day.

A short time passed when Mr. Alzaga died suddenly, leaving a little son. His beautiful young wife went into mourning. She had barely thrown if off when her child, then 4 years of age, died from

empacho. Time passed on, but Mrs Alzaga's beauty proved a fatal gift, as she was soon surrounded with admirers. Her two principal suitors were Mr. Ocampo and Mr. Saenz Valiente now married to Miss Lola Urquiza. Mrs. Alzaga became engaged to Mr. Ocampo, and all the preparations for a splendid marriage ceremony were at once begun. But the future husband heard that Saenz Valiente was still paying his intended too many attentions and he therefore called one evening at Mrs. Alzaga's quinta in Barracas, and requested the servant to hand in his card to Mrs. Alzaga, who was at that moment seated in the drawing room talking to her father, mother and several friends whilst waiting for the dinner bell to ring. Her father knew that his daughter did not care very much for her future husband, who had latterly displayed a certain amount of gruffness towards her, and therefore begged, nay implored, Mrs. Alzaga to let him see Mr. Ocampo. The beautiful widow refused and, waving her hand, left the room and entering an adjoining apartment, was confronted by her future husband. Two minutes had not elapsed when the report of two revolver shots rang out; the family and guests rushed into the room and found Mrs. Alzaga lying on the floor with a bullet wound in the region of the heart, whilst Mr. Ocampo was stretched in a corner of the room with a bullet in his chest. Mrs. Alzaga was carried upstairs, where she breathed her last a few minutes later, Mr. Ocampo died whilst being taken to his residence.

Mr. Guerrero then built a chapel in Barracas after his daughter's name, on the very spot where she died. The statue of Mrs. Alzaga and her little son can still be seen in the Felicitas chapel at Barracas.

The magnificent house alongside the Aguila in Calle Florida was built for Mrs. Alzaga. The ceiling of the dining room alone cost £600 and was pulled down and remade three times before it satisfied the taste of the future mistress of the Palace.

LATEST FROM THE RIO NEGRO.

Viedma, Jan. 11.

To the Editor of the STANDARD,

Dear Sir,

The young men of Viedma having resolved on presenting a gold plate to Mr George William Humble in honour of his appointment as Governor (pro tem.) of the territory of the Rio Negro, the last night of the year 1895 was the date fixed for the presentation.

Accordingly, at about 10 p.m., a large and select number of the young men of Viedma, accompanied by music and fireworks, proceeded to the residence of his father, Doctor A. G. Humble, and, amid torrents of fervid eloquence, the presentation was made. The utmost harmony prevailed, and refreshments were provided on a liberal scale.

After leaving, the company proceeded to the Government House to salute His Excellency, General Bernal.

On the following night a select ball was given in honour of ex-Governor Humble, so as to give the fair sex of Viedma an opportunity of joining in the general festivities.

The Gold Plate, which is a real work of art, made in Buenos Ayres, bears the following inscription engraven in Spanish:—" A Jorge G. Humble, con motivo de su nombramiento de Gobernador Interino del Territorio, sus amigos le dedican este recuerdo. Viedma, Julio 17 de 1895".

The inhabitants of Viedma and Patagones take a lively interest in the proposed railway extension from Bahia Blanca to Neuquen. The general feeling is that the proposed extension will injure Patagones and Viedma, by diverting the traffic from those towns, and perhaps by leading to the transference of the Capital of the Territory from Viedma to Roca, so that Patagones and Viedma would be left, as it were, out in the cold. The proposal of making a bridge over the Rio Negro, connecting Viedma with Patagones, is regarded with general satisfaction.

The Municipality of Patagones have taken the idea into their heads of converting the old and disused Cemetery into a public garden, and so compelling the friends and relatives to remove the remains of those interred therein! Why not let the dead rest in their graves? Besides, it is very doubtful if trees and plants would grow in the old Cemetery unless continually watered; and, more than that, probably but few persons would care to "pasear" in a place so full of sad recollections. If the idea be carried out, the Municipality of Patagones ought certainly to be presented with a large medal *made of leather!*

Yours truly,

X. Y. Z.

MONTEVIDEO.

(*From our own Correspondent.*)

Montevideo, January 14th.

Our genial friend Lussich gave a luxurious spread this morning at Mine Host Charpentier's in honor of the Argentine Minister Moreno. To-night this distinguished diplomat is being banqueted by H. E. President Borda at his palatial private residence. On Thursday ex-President Julio Herrera y Obes takes his turn and will offer Minister Moreno a parting cup of tea and a musical soiree. To-morrow another Ministerial banquet, also served by Mine Host Charpentier will be given by the Rural Minister Castro to the eminent engineers Guerarly and Kummer who are leaving on Thursday next for Europe. To this grand feast the French and German Ministers and Consuls have been invited; the ministers of State, Luther's technical group of Engineers, the members of the Board of Public Works, the members of the special port studies commission, and of the National Board of Engineers, in all forty five guests.

The Kermesse of the Patronate de Damas closed last night to be followed by the Kermesse of the Ateneo.

The children's representation at Solis of the drama Jauja by Samuel Blixen, was a great success.

Don Isidoro de Maria, the octogenarian and indefatigable historian, has just published his 4th volume of traditions and memories to show that mentally he has not aged and is still on deck.

Some of our distinguished families were royally entertained yesterday by the gallant Captain Sterling on board the U. S. flag ship Newark, and merrily passed the hours till the band struck up "Home sweet home" ond the "boson" sang out all aboard which cruel command broke up that pleasant gathering.

Don Rodolfo Heimendhal has been appointed to represent the Uruguayan Company Limited in place of Mr. Miguel Carrol, who is still dangerously ill.

Jan. 15th.

Engineer Guerard will not return to Europe on the 17th per Sirio, as has been announced, having decided to go by the French steamer Chili leaving on the 5th February. Meanwhile, he will visit your city and have a look at the Madero Port and the Port of La Plata.

Don Nicolas Mihanovich arrived this morning to take over the Venus of the Platense Line, of which he has recently become proprietor. The service of this line it is said will now be greatly improved.

The general meeting of the Italian Bank of Uruguay is announced for the 28th inst. The election of Directors and auditors will be held and the report on last half year's business will be also be presented.

Half Montevideo were assembled in the Plaza Independencia from 5 to 7-30 to shed a parting tear with the intrepid French traveller Robichon who was to have left to-day on his territorial journey to New York; but he never turned up and now he had better not for the present.

Cattle have declined in price. Of 4000 offered yesterday, less than two hundred sold, Arravillaga the only buyer.

Great mortality of sheep in some districts from foot-rot and worm—a bad look out for estancieros.

Montevideo 16th.

Rebuchon, the hero of the hour, is away at last on his equestrian terrestrial pilgrimage from Montevideo to Brooklyn bridge. His appearnce in the plaza today at 5.30 p.m. was greeted with enthusiastic cheers by the admiring thousands there assembled. He was dressed in white linen with yellow top boots and a grey slouch hat. He rode a well built "saino" Creole horse and a silver mounted native bit and reins. He had attached to his saddle a tent and cooking utensils, and to his person a formidable revolver and a sharp pointed blade of steel about the length of his body, called here a "facon". His valet, of the "gringo" type when just landed, followed meekly behind on an old "mancaron" and an English saddle with no further attachments. Neither of the two heroes know how to ride. Rebuchon after making his triumphal march round the plaza descended from his horse and in the pressure of the immense crowd which had then collected, with great difficulty reached a spot where he could make his farewell speech. He began by explaining the cause of his failure to appear yesterday as he had announced and asked to be forgiven. He was again wildly cheered by the admiring throng. He was very brief in his discourse and could only be heard by those alongside. When concluded he was picked up by the crowd and landed on his horse. Then waving with his hat many times a fond "adios," he proceeded slowly up the Calle 18 de Julio followed by the eager multitude and his "Sancho Panza;" as far as the eye could reach. Rebuchon is about twenty-three years old, born in Paris of distinguished parentage, but was of irregular habits in his boyhood, which he was sent to this country a couple of years ago to correct. He is of slight build, of medium stature, vivacious and intelligent. Many doubt his ever reaching Brooklyn bridge or his intention of doing so. Time will tell.

The wife of a mechanic employed on the Uruguay Central Railway was nearly burned to death yesterday at the Feñarol station.

The Spanish Minister Gil y Uribarry, gave a banquet this morning to Argentine Minister Moreno, who is leaving to-morrow for Italy by the Sirio. Never before has a diplomat in the River Plate been so abundantly and so r yally feasted.

Julio Piquet, one of the distinguished editors of *La Nacion*, and Don Juan Cruz Varela from your city, are here on a visit.

Finance Minisler Vidiella has been ill in bed ever since the President's banquet given to Minister Moreno.

In yesterday's gale the U.S.S. Castine dragged her anchor; but with the assistance of tugs got out of her difficulty.

Montevideo, Dec. 17

The Secretary of the Finance Bureau, Don Eugenio Madalena, had a serious accident yesterday from a collision of his carriage with a tram-car. He was badly but not dangerously injured.

The printers and the proprietors of the anti-Borda organ *El Censor* could not agree, so this daily will give President Idiarte and Julio a *rest* until the dissenters come to terms or other printers can be obtained.

Miss Carmen J. Zelaya, daughter of Don Domingo Toro Martinez, brother of Ex-Chilian Cousul Dr. Domingo Toro y Zelaya, died suddenly last night at the Central Hotel from congestion of the brain. This distinguished young lady was here passing the bathers-season with her brother Domingo and her sister Teresa Zelaya.

Our Custom-house will give a cool million gold this month, against nine hundred thousand in January last year, a good yield. If these millions were properly administered what a lovely country this would be.

Rebuchon telegraphed yesterday from Colon at 9.30 p.m. where he arrived with his valet safe and sound: camped and pitched his tent. His march to-day was to Santa Lucia and so on till he sights Brooklyn Bridge.

The appointment of Daniel Muñoz as Minister to Italy and Austria, was sanctioned yesterday by the Chambers.

At Minister Castro's banquet it was proposed seconded and carried unanimously that two of the future docks en partibus bear the names of Kummer and Guerard. A magnificent plan of the projected port, measuring 11 feet by 7 was exhibited by the Minister to the guests on that convivial occasion, which is said to be a work of art prepared by the notable draughtsman Mr. Elena and bearing the signature of Minister Castro, Guerard, Kummer, Tolkmitt, Michaelson and Monteverde. If a plan of the port is all we required, we have got that now and the question of who is to build it is of no consequence. It is rumoured that Luther and Co. are in treaty with Government for the sale of all their machinery and materials employed in the studies of the port, which looks rather fishy and as though they had no intention of continuing the work.

RAILWAY ITEMS.

TRAFFIC RETURNS.

Buenos Aires Great Western Railway for the week ended Dec. 29th,

	1895	1894	Increase
Miles open....	427	427	2
R'ce'pts of week	£17850	£9145	£2705
Do. per mile..	£27.15.1	£21.10.4	£6.4.9
Do to date....	£341265	£229703	£111561

Central Uruguay and Auxiliary Railways for the week ended Dec. 28th:—

	1895	1894	Increase
Miles open.....	581	581	—
			Decrease
R'ceipts of week	£8138	£8409	£271
Do. per mile...	£14.0.1	£14.9.5	£0.9.4
			Increase
From 1st July..	£212180	£189632	£22548

Buenos Aires and Pacific Railway for the week ended Dec. 28th:—

	1895	1894	Increase
Miles open.....	426	426	—
R'ceipts for week	£5632	£4646	£986
Do per mile.....	£13.4.5	£10.18.2	£2.6.3
From 1st July...	£146032	£110190	£35842

Buenos Aires G. Southern Railway for the week ending Dec. 29th:—

	1895	1894	Increase.
Miles open.....	1401	1401	—
R'ceipts of week	£27870	£24389	£3481
Do per mile....	£19.17.10	£17.8.2	£2.9.8
From July 1st..	£559400	£505809	£53591

Buenos Aires and Rosario Railway for the week ended Dec. 28th:—

	1895	1894	Increase.
Miles open...	911	911	—
Rects. of week.	£10728	£10120	£608
Do. per mile..	£11.15.6	£11.2.2	£0.13.4
From 1st Jan.	£628824	£609168	£19655

Buenos Aires and Ensenada Port Railway for the week ended Jan. 5th:—

	1896.	1895.	Decrease
Miles open.....	129	129	—
Receipts of week	£2511	£2687	£176
Do. per mile....	£19.9.3	£20.16.7	£1.7.3
From Jan. 1st..	£2511	£2687	£176

Buenos Aires and Ensenada Port Railway for the week ended December 31st:—

	1895	1894	Increase
Miles open.....	129	129	—
Rec'pts for week	£1197	£558	£639
Do. per mile.....	£9.5.7	£4.6.6	£4.19.1
From 1st July...	£187653	£149181	£38472

Central Uruguay and Auxiliary Railway for the week ended Jan. 4th:—

	1896	1895	Decrease
Miles open.....	581	581	—
R'ceipts of week	£8929	£9754	£825
Do. per mile ...	£15.7.4	£16.15.9	£1.8.5
			Increase.
From July 1st...	£221109	£199390	£21719

B. Aires and Pacific Railway for the week ended Jan. 4th:—

	1896	1895	Increase.
Miles open....	426	426	—
R'ceipts of week	£6309	£4799	£1510
Do per mile....	£14.16.3	£11.5.4	£3.10.11
From 1st July..	£152341	£114990	£37351

Buenos Aires and Rosario Railway for the week ended Jany. 4th:—

	1896	1895	Increase
Miles open.....	911	911	—
Rec'pts for week	£10167	£9363	£803
Do. per mile....	£11.3.3	£10.5.6	£0.17.8

Cordoba and North Western Railway for the week ended Jan. 7th:—

	1896	1895	Increase
Miles open...	95	95	—
R'ceipts of week	£5700	£3580	£2120
Do. per mile. .	£60	£37.68	£22.32
From 1st Jan...	£5700	£3580	£2120

Buenos Aires and Ensenada Railway for the week ending Jan. 12th:—

	1896.	1895.	Increase
Miles open.....	129	129	—
Rce'pts of week.	£3992	£2719	£1273
Per mile.....	£30.18.11	£21.1.6	£9.17.4
Up to date.....	£6503	£5406	£1097

Central Uruguay and Auxiliary Lines for the week ended Jan. 11th:—

	1896	1895	Decrease.
Miles open.....	581	581	—
Recipts for Week	£9825	£11511	£1686
Do. per mile....	£16.18.2	£19.16.2	£2.18.0
			Increase
From 1st July.	£230934	£210901	£20033

B. A. Great Southern Railway up to 13th Jany.:—

	1896	1895	Increase.
Miles open....	1401	1401	—
R'c'pts of week	£29688	£27679	£2009
Do. per mile...	£21.3.10	£19.15.2	£1.8.8
From 1st July.	£616529	£557885	£58644

North West Argentine Railway for the week ended Jan. 12th:—

	1896	1895	Increase
Miles open.....	94	94	—
Repts. for Week.	£813	£750	£62
Do. Per mile....	£8.13.1	£7.19.9	£9.10.4
From 1st Jan...	£1426	£1314	£112

Central Argentine Railway for the week ended Jan. 11th:—

	1896	1895	Increase
Miles open.....	790	768	22
R'ceipts of week	£14875	£14129	£746
Do per mile.....	£18.16.7	£18.8.0	£0.8.7
			Decrease
From 1st Jan..	£23473	£24144	£670

Great Western Railway for the week ending Jan. 13th:—

	1896	1895	Increase.
Miles open.....	427	425	2
R'ceipts of week	£14516	£10670	£3846
Do per mile...	£33.19.11	£25.2.2	£8.17.9
Up to date.....	£369606	£250624	£118982

The Buenos Aires and Pacific Railway for the week ended Jan. 11th:—

	1896	1895	Increase
Miles open.....	426	426	—
R'ceipts of week	£6204	£4441	£1763
Do. per mile....	£14.11.3	£10.8.6	£4.2.9
From 1st. July	£158546	£119431	£39115

Oeste Santafecino Railway up to 11th Jan.

	1895	1896	Increase
Miles open.....	—	—	—
Rceip'ts of week	$50447	$24861	$25586
Do. per mile....	$400	$197	$203
From Jany 1st.	$50447	$23861	$25586

The Finance Minister has distributed the $500,000 gold for the last quarter of 1895 amongst the Guaranteed Railway Companies as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Buenos Aires al Pacifico.	18,768	4	8
Villa Maria y Rufino...	6,100	16	10
B. Bianca y Nord-Oeste.	5,497	10	1
Nord-Oeste Argentino...	2,150	0	11
Gran Oeste Argentino..	16,052	14	0
Argentino del Este.....	6,775	15	5
Central de Córdoba.....	19,766	3	8
Trasandino	5,532	13	3
		$ m/n	
San Cristobal á Tucuman		57,089.69	
Nord-Este Argentino....		36,464.82	

Government has accepted the suggestion of the National Railway Board for renewing the rails on the Andine line. The Argentine Minister in London will be ordered to call for tenders to supply the rails required.

Government has decided that, as the law providing that tenders for public supplies can only be set aside in cases of the most urgent necessity, the proposal of Messrs. Evans and Co. to supply rolling stock for the Andine Railway cannot be entertained, and the Argentine Minister in London will be instructed to call for tenders.

Minister Zorrilla received a telegram yesterday from the Southern Railway Board stating that the materials for the construction of the line to Neuquen left London yesterday. The Southern Railway Company has a great number of sleepers in Bahia Blanca with which to commence the line. The Company expects to finish the line in March 1897. The line to Neuquen is indeed a triumph for Dr. Zorrilla.

The Finance Minister has ordered payment to the Guaranteed Railway Companies of the last instalment on account for 1895 voted by Act of Congress.

We publish the returns of the Ferro-Carril Cordoba and Nor-Oeste for the week ending January 7th. The receipts last year amounted in round figures to $167,000 against 135,000 in 1894 and $114,000 in 1893. The increase is a very considerable one. The summer passenger traffic on this line is increasing daily, and it would be much greater but for the want of better hotel accommodation, which although superior to what it was 4 years ago, leaves room for improvement.

Government has approved the plans of the Rosario Railway for erecting a tank and steam pump at the Retiro station.

The Minister of the Interior has made official declaration that Toay is the terminal point of the extension from Trenquelauquen granted to the Western Railway.

The Minister of Finance has authorized the Argentine Great Western Railway to sell 200 empty barrels, first paying the duty. This duty is absurd. Why not put a duty on the empty heads that conceived it.

Special Notices.

BRITISH HOSPITAL.

List of Subscriptions and Donations for December, 1895.

Argentine Lighter Co.....	100 paper
A. Auld.....	10
Anonymous.....	50
Bieckert's Brewery Co.....	100
F. Bridger.....	100
B. Aires & Rosario Ry Co..	200 gold
Blackpool Quinta, S. Nicolas, Lomas de Z.....	40.40 paper
Robt. Burns.....	25
Mr F Coulon	50
Isaac Cook.....	25 gold
J Browne Cowes	30 paper
Collections—	
Mrs Murtagh, Campana...	14
Rymer O. Watson.....	557
Railway Clearing House, per A J Patterson.....	130
C H P Dashwood	218
F. C. S., Engineers' Department, per H. Barfield.....	266
„ Head Office, Sola, per R. Gould.....	104
„ Carriage & Waggon Depart., per do...	31.50
„ Locomotive & Running Dep.. per do.	90.50
„ Las Flores, per do.	66
„ Dolores, per do.....	64.50
„ Tandil.....	41
„ Saladillo.....	15.50
„ El Puerto.....	53
„ Carriage & Waggon Dept. (Running)...	72.30
„ Locomotive Works	88.75
B. Aires & Rosario Railway, Gerencia Depart	148
Do, Accountants' do.....	83
Do. Locomotive, Carriage & Waggon Depart.....	220.20
Do, Stores Department....	92.50
Do. Traffic Department....	200
Do, Telegraph.....	26
Do, Signal	12
Do, Local Commission per T N Thornsby.....	35
Engineers' Depart., per J. Percy Clarke.....	245
F. C. S., Traffic Depart., per F. Gregory.....	127.50
Do. Ayacucho, per Mr Goodliffe.....	152.50
Do, Las Flores, per Mr Moore	280
Do, Canuelas, per Mr Blythman.....	244
Do, El Puerto, per Mr Phillip	401.50
Do, Plaza Section, per Mr. Taylor.....	351.90
Central Cordoba & Cordoba and Rosario Railway, per J. F. Coombe	271
Estancia Los Ingleses.....	51
Barclay, Mackintosh and Co, Staff	82
Staff Anglo-Argentino Bank	85
George Evans, Negrete	598
F Tetley, Espartillar.....	144
W. H. Tremayne (Blandengues.....	62
La Prevenida Insurance Co.	89
R. and J. Carlisle & Co, Staff.....	27
Fabricantes Ingleses.....	84
Alexander Grant.....	725.00
Hospital Collecting Box....	9.87
Staff, Wanklyn, Crane and Co.....	135
C. W. Andrews.....	95
John Potts.....	40
Mrs Helen Drysdale.....	500
W Davis	20
Estancia Canádon.....	50
Helen Faust.....	20
Gibson Bros.....	120
Thomas Gibson.....	100
Mr. Williams Glynne.....	200
Sr. Girardini.....	25
W E O Haxell.....	20
Hawkshaw, Hayter, and Dobson.....	50.40 gold
Lowndes, Selby C.....	10 paper
Henry Langley.....	20
W Martindale.....	20
Mackill, Laidlaw & Co....	50
W. Manson.....	10
Rev. Father O'Reilly.....	100
Essex Read	100
Mrs Roderhaus.....	20
R Simons.....	20
John Sewell.....	50 gold
The STANDARD.....	436 paper
John Todd.....	10
W Turnbull.....	10
F E Kinchant.....	25
Charles J Pearson.....	25
J G Walker.....	200
M Whitington.....	50
N. Williams, Estancia Eola	50
Whitworth & Co.....	20

New Wards Fund.

B. A. Gt. Southern Railway	1008 gold
Rosario Railway.....	252
R J Farran	250 paper
Houlder Bros.....	1000
Lamport & Holt.....	1000
Lockwood & Co.....	100
London & R. Plate Bank..	504 gold
R. Plate Trust, Loan and Agency Co.....	1000 paper
R. Plate Petroleum Co....	100
James Smart.....	100

Further subscriptions and donations will be thaukfully received by the undersigned or by any member of the Committee.

E. E. Cordner,
Hon. Treasurer.
649 15-16

THE IRISH CATHOLIC ASSOCIATION,

IN ACCOUNT CURRENT WITH MR. PATRICK HAM, TREASURER.

Cr.

	$
Dec. 7th—From Mr. E. Morgan, Arrecifes, donation	100.00
„ 20th—Mr. Wm. Minnock, donation	5.00
„ 21st—Mrs. Margaret M. de Morgan annl. sub.	1000.00
„ 30th—Mr. James Casey donation.....	100.00
	1205.00

Dr.

	$
Dec. 1st—Balance from last month	770.69
„ 31st—To Father Pallares for December	140.00
	910 69
Balance in favour of the Association	294.31
E. & E. O.	

The Treasurer.

B. Ayres, Jan. 15th, 1896.

The Treasurer gratefully acknowledges as donation to the Orphanage from the STANDARD $55 m/n for publications during the year 1895. 662 j15 16

IRISH ORPHANAGE.

DECEMBER. 1895.

Cash Received.

	$ m/n
Balance	1089.83
Alfred J. White.....	10.00
Mrs. Barber.....	50.00
Mrs. Sichirich.....	10.00
Mrs. Colligan.....	55.00
Mr. Michael Laracy	20.00
	1234.83

Cash paid.

	$ m/n
Baker.....	181.50
Butcher.....	88.80
Dairy.....	75.05
Vegetables.....	37.75
Grocer.....	105.17
Soap and light	34.81
Fuel.....	36.62
Sundries	29.89
Infirmary	34.40
Clothing	41.10
Boots	49.21
Balance	520.53
	1234.83

Number of children, 124.

The Sisters of Mercy gratefully acknowledge the following presents for the Irish Orphanage:—

Mr. Mulhall $277 for publications. A friend a large quantity of good things for Christmas and New Year and table-cloths, etc. for the use of the Chaplain. The Misses Elisa and Maggie Ham 8 large cakes.

661 j15 16

MISCELLANEOUS.

We see that the Prefect of the Port has given his decision in regard to the late trifling collision between the Eolo and Golondrina when leaving this port. The Prefect apparently does not consider the case a very serious one, as after carefully studying all the evidence in the case, instead of fining the captain of the Eolo, as the complaining captain demanded, he merely resolves that he shall be reprimanded.

The latest diplomatic news is that Dr. Luis Dominguez, who has so long and so zealously represented his country as Minister in London, will be given a full retiring pension and some extra mark of appreciation of his long and arduous services, and his son and Secretary, Don Florencio Dominguez, will be named Minister in his place. No member of the Diplomatic Corps has ever better won the reward of brilliant services. If Dr. Dominguez were in the British service, he would have been raised to the peerage years ago.

Do any of our readers believe in ghosts? We don't, yet hypnotism, mesmerism, or spiritualism is so much on the increase in the Plate that we have a veritable ghost story for our readers this morning. At a fashionable dinner party in this city on Tuesday evening, the subject of ghosts and hipnotism having come up, a gentleman who does not believe in ghosts asked permission to tell a real ghost story. The candles on the dining table were, at his request, extinguished, and the magnetic circle of hands formed. He then recounted what many years ago happened to him in Stephen's Green, Dublin, where, when sitting one night in the drawing room reading the *Freemans Journal*, with his back to the light and to the door leading into the dining room, a lady dressed in deep black swept through the door and went out into the hall through another door. We immediately rang the bell and told the landlady, who with clasped hands told him that it was poor Mrs Featherstone who, a few weeks previously, had died in the little room off the dining room. This extraordinary story produced such an impression on the guests at the dinner party with the candles out that there was a deathlike stillness in the room and, *The beating of their own hearts was all the sound they heard.* Suddenly a gentleman of a very nervous temperament, and a prominent director of one of our railways, gave a shout. The lady at the head of the table felt faint, and broke the mystic magnetic circle of hands, lights were called for, and many of the company confessed that they felt half hypnotized. Luckily, there was no medium present. The table moved and all felt the magnetism of the hands.

The season at Mar del Plata is brightenning up, the hotels are rapidly working up to the "completo" point, some picnics have already come off, and riding parties are the order of the day, or rather of the early morning and evening. It is a pity that Mar del Plata is so far off. Sea-bathing is a closed book for the great majority of the people of this great city. River air and fresh water bathing are very poor health substitutes for the invigorating properties of the mighty ocean and its pure ozone.

The steevedores' strike in Montevideo is, in the expressive words of our British contemporary there, "simmering down." So best. The whole business, here and there, seems to have been a botched one. The public have no sympathy with the strikers, as, although their work is heavy, their wages are equally so, and nature gave them extra strength and sinews where with to do it.

The *Montevideo Times* gives the following curious piece of news:—"There has been an invasion of bed-mattresses on the South coast of the city, and they have been eagerly gathered up by the neighbours of that district. At first it was thought they came from some wreck, but now it has been ascertained that they were thrown overboad by a vessel from Europe on account of a pest among the 3rd-class passengers! It is to be hoped their immersion has effectually disinfected them, or the consequences may be unpleasant to their new owners."

The Peruvians are a trifle behind the age in their ideas of religious freedom. The Mayor of the town of San Miguel gave the fanatical inhabitants a treat the other day by making an "auto da fé" in the Plaza of a cargo of Bibles seized in the possession of an agent of The American Bible Society. The luck is that the agent was n't turned into smoke as well as his Bibles.

South American patriots are quite as good, but no better in some ways than patriots in any other part of the globe; but they lick all others hollow in the original and humorous way they have of expressing their love for their native land Lately, we have had here as an instance the late Mr. John Anchorena's eccentric and quite impossible will. In Caracas last month a patriotic nabob put a notice in the papers warning his English friends against saluting him in the street or visiting him, as life would be made unpleasant for them if they attempt ek it. Yesterday the funny announcement was made that Messrs John Tellez and sons of Oruru have published in the papers there their intention of renouncing their nationality, selling all their property and going to Peru to become citizens there, as they consider Bolivia basely sold to Chile by the recent treaty.

Poor Perú has now been bitten with the armed peace mania. As the Government hasn't a red cent, the Lord Mayor of Lima has started and patriotically headed a public subscription to buy an ironclad. What folly!

If the sand continue to silt up on this side of the Parana for a few years more, as it most certainly will, the Madero and La Plata ports will be snuffed out by the new port at Montevideo, unless Government has the common sense to fall back on the only scheme that can save the port of this city, viz: Mr. Horace Wheeler's plan of "wings" to confine the current which has proved such a great success on the Mississippi. In the new port at Montevideo the darsena walls will be 8 metres (26 ½ feet) deep in ordinary low water. There has been adapted as term of comparison the 0 (zero) of the English charts, which represents the lowest ordinary tides, and with relation to this the port will have, at such tides, a depth of 7 mts. or 23 ft., and in 25 ft. in ordinary low water. Consequently the depth of the port will always exceed the minimum established in the port law, and will suffice for vessels of the deepest draught.

Commercial News.

Friday, January 3rd 1896.

There is at last some probability of the Cordoba Municipality being able to arrange its gold deposit account with the Provincial Bank. As will be remembered, when the latter got into difficulties it became refractory with its clients, amongst the latter being the Corporation which had in deposit the balance of the gold loan, and when the foreign creditors worried the Corporation, the latter passed the polite remonstrance on to the bank. Of course this could not go on like Tennyson's brook, and we see that the Mayor has been empowered by the city fathers to finance the business with the bank and set the matter up on a straight footing again, which will be hailed as a healthy sign by the bondholders. Whilst on the subject of Cordoba we note a general complaint from the rural districts that the distinction between "meum" and "tuum" is fast being lost sight of altogether, falling into disuse so to speak, through the negligence of the authorities in not asserting the primary principles with due perseverance and vigour. Unfortunately, Cordoba is not the only place where moral perception has lost its keen edge.

The Customs receipts for the past year in Bahia Blanca as compared with those for 1894 show an advance of $7,372—nothing, perhaps, to chant a pœan over, but always on the right side and satisfactory. The receipts for 1895 were $637,935. Yesterday 161 tons of wool entered the market. A contract has just been signed for a lease of 4 leagues of camp in the Pampa Central at $800 the league, but the names and situation of the camp are kept in reserve.

The accounts of the damage done to the Santa Fé crops by storms and locust, and of the probable yield, are so contradictory that the following declarations in this regard from such an authorized source as Mr. Rodolf Brühl will be read with interest. Mr. Brühl estimates this year's yield of wheat and linseed as 30% and 50% respectively short of that of previous year, a sledge-hammer plunge that shews clearly all absence of exaggeration in the partial reports of losses previously published. In many colonies, he goes on to say, the linseed is not worth the expense of cutting, and he calculates the average yield per square at 120 to 180 quintals wheat and 110 quintals linseed. In Sunchales the yield for that area is estimated at 200 quintals wheat and 120 linseed, whilst at Ereilla, Ceres and Selva it should be 250 wheat and 150 linseed. In the old established colonies, Esperanza, San Carlos, Las Tunas. Frank Gessler, Santa Maria, San Agustin, Pilar, Progreso and Providencia, the farmers will not get back the cost of sowing. Those situated along the Rosario line to Rafaela will barely pan out 100 quintals of wheat and linseed to the concession which is 20 squares. Those South of Rosario, in Constitucion and G. Lopez departments have done much better and promise 300 quintals and perhaps more. Those on the Central Argentine and Las Yerbas branch are in precisely similar condition, but in the Capital, San Justo and Reconquista departments, there is a total failure.

The actioneers threw off with a mighty effort some of the plumpudding *vis inertiæ* to-day and contrived to make a show of doing something, though the amount of business got through was not overwhelming. Mr. Massini took in hand a nice small block of 3750 hectares or say 1½ league in the Rio Negro, Section 6, fraction C., lot Nº 16 which will be found marked on the map with the name of Perez, being at the back of Pringles and say a few leagues directly north of the Laguna Abra. The brothers Kincaid, whose fine estancia is in the immediate vicinity, know every inch of this camp well, as 15 to 20 years ago when the Indians still claimed sovereignity in that then almost terra incognita they scoured the neighbourhood, rounding up the cattle from the Scrub, bolearing ostriches and filling the bent of a natural curiosity to know what lay behind them. Mr. Kincaid has repeatedly expressed his opinion that this land is very poor indeed, so that no wonder it should have sold to-day as low as 1.60 the hectare, say $4,000 the league, the buyer being a Ligurian, Mr. Venturino, and even at that rate it seems quite dear enough with fertile valley lands washed by the smiling river going at $10,000 to 12,000. Why taking into consideration that lands on the river between Chimpay and Chelforó a year ago could not get a buyer at 5,000 the league the price of $4,000 for scrub land seems exorbitant. However, there it is, and it only shews how these southern camps are being snapped up.

Saturday, January 4th 1896.

There was a suspicious firmness about the gold market this morning, all the more significant as four hundred thousand gold dollars were thrown on the ring for cash and four hundred thousand sovereigns have arrived by the steamers Danube and Iberia. On the other hand, the requirements of the weekly settlement had to be met and the bulls were flush of paper money.

The general state of affairs is far from favorable to a fall in the premium, for clouds are gathering on the horizon. Apart from the news from the Old World, which appears to be in a ferment, we see nearer home a great stagnation in business, a slow efflux of produce, heavy expenditure, and the dangers that threaten the public health at this time of the year, owing to frequent and close intercourse with Brazilian ports. Add to this an easy money market that supplies the sinews of war to bullish operators, and we find an explanation of the stubborness with which the premium resists a fall.

In the last number of the *Produccion Argentina* we notice a most interesting article, written by our esteemed friend Don Carlos Lix Klett, on the situation of our markets, and on the development of production throughout the Republic. We see that in the province of Buenos Aires alone there are 1,500,000 hectares under cultivation. These figures show an increase of 110,000 hectares since the year 1890, divided as follows: 50% to maize, 30% to alfalfa, and 15% to wheat. The estimated value of the past crops is calculated at 200,000,000 dollars, half of which is derived from maize.

Mr. Brühl's estimate of the loss in the Santa Fé crops from hail and locusts, which we published in our last issue, has attracted much attention, giving, as it does, a fairly correct idea of the prospects of the coming yield, and we see that advices received from Rosario to-day confirm to a great extent Mr. Brühl's calculation giving the damage in the north of the province as 25% all round. At Villa Constitucion all the cereals are very flourishing, both linseed and maize promising a splendid yield, whilst on the Western of Santa Fé line the prospects are equally cheering. The serene prosperity of some districts, however, does not do away with the fact that the farmers in general have had a very bad time of it indeed, and this will affect business generally.

We published a few days ago an anticipation, so to speak, of the bucolic census of of the Province which we now complement with the following official data: cattle 7,194,766 head; horses 1,679,225 head; mules 24,479; asses 4,189; sheep 52,206,672; swine 254,962; goats 11,678; tame ostriches 58,485; poultry 3,371,218; geese turkeys and ducks 591,084; silkworms, seed cultivated in oz. 2,489, beehives 5,999. As regards agriculture the area under cultivation in 1895 was: wheat 411,115 hectares; maize 746,614 hectares; linseed 69,043 hectares; barley 29,735 hectares; potatoes 9,794 hectares; alfa 231,630 hectares; vegetables 30,693 hectares; total area 1,428,627 hetares. Now as regards districts, in cattle we note that 25 de Mayo is a long way ahead with 655,571 head, the others in order being Lincoln 257,272 head, Olavarria 234,189, Azul 220,199, Ayacucho 218,173, Bolivar 212,223, Tandil 197,617, Necochea 160,891, Loberia 189,243 Guamini 195,600, Balcarce 167,923, 9 de Julio 159,879, Trenque Lauquen 153,832, Juarez 142,134, Tres Arroyos 131,151, Suarez 131,823, Pehuajó 130,384, Chascomús 129,476, Tapalqué 124,530, Pila 112,270, Saladillo 110,016, Alvear 107,087 and Las Flores 103,250. None of the other partidos counts 100,000 head, and we see that San Isidro stands lowest on the list with 2,597 head. In sheep we give the following partidos which count over a million head each: Ayacucho 2,032,451 head, Olavarria 1,886,724, Juarez 1,730,740, 25 de Mayo 1,540,470, Necochea 1,516,011, Loberia 1,496,475, Azul 1,450,931, Trenque Lauquen 1,401,434, 3 Arroyos 1,366,948, Pringles 1,309,238, Villarino 1,182,275, Dorrego 1,122,222, Tandil 1,121,552, Bolivar 1,115,583, Bahia Blanca 1,115,390, Guamini 1,050,000, Rauch 1,030,944. As will be seen by above, the great wealth in live stock of the Province is now located in the South, agriculture having steadily driven out animals of late from the Northern camps.

The Government could not have hit on a more expedient or recommendable way of utilizing the services of the various gentlemen which it at present entertains at the expense of the state in the Penitentiary, than by giving them a trip to the Far South, where their minds will be expanded by travel and their sphere of usefulness considerably increased to the advantage of Society at large—especially that section which loses their genial companionship. The Governor of Tierra del Fuego will not quarrel with his recruits, and we have only to look back at Australia and its development to see the great advantages that may accrue from judicious penal settlements on the frontiers. That country thrived on the system, and we suppose Argentine convicts will not confess themselves inferior to the task of waking up Fireland to the steady advance of civilization. Anyway the measure is a well advised one, and we congratulate the Government on this new departure in social conditions.

The report of the Argentine Southern Land Company, Limited, for the year ending 30th June, presented at the seventh ordinary general meeting held in London on 19th of December, states that throughout the period that has elapsed since the meeting in February last, the company's representatives in Buenos Aires have kept close to the Government, to expedite the granting of titles to the lands represented by the concessions. Most unfortunately, a change of Minister took place when hopes were brightest of obtaining a favourable reply to the petition which had been presented, conveying a proposal for a settlement of questions then pending; and with the advent of the new Minister the antecedents had all to be gone over again. The objections that were taken on this reconsideration of the position have been replied to by the company's representatives and, from the last accounts they send they are again in a fair way to obtain a just settlement. The Government continue to be favourably disposed towards the company, in view of what has been done by it in opening up the southern part of the Argentine Republic. The number of cattle sent into Chili and sold there again increasee slightly, 3,131 head having gone; and the number of sheep—5,175—was about same as last year. The result on both was very satisfactory. The stocks of animals at 30th June were 15,132 cattle, 15,971 sheep and 1,357 horses. Calves marked in the year 3,432, and lambs 3,847, the increase in both cases being again satisfactory. Sales of animals in Chili, with those consumed for rations, added to those that have died, are together in excess of this increase in the case of sheep, which are reasons for the stock now being less than last year; the same influences affected cattle, and kept their number with but little increase. The brokers' reports from Buenos Aires on the company's wool show continued improvement as regards the quality, and by-and-bye, when the effect of the new blood on the flocks has shown itself, this will be more appreciable. The rates of exchange at which the Argentine currency has been taken are, in the case of floating assets and liabilities, at a premium of 246 per cent., and the sterling value of the gold dollar 48d, while in profit and loss account in respect of the items relating to Argentina, the average rate is 252 per cent premium, and the gold dollar at the same specie rate of 48d.

The inveterate dullness of Saturday asserted itself at the second ring. Were it not for the Barraqueros, Consignatarios, and Artistas paying out and receiving money in the western wing of the hall, the banks and the Bolsa might be closed every Saturday at one o'clock, as there is little or no business doing, much less in hot, sultry weather. At the gold ring the "marasmo" was complete and the turnover in gold did not amount to one hundred and fifty thousand dollars. Business for Tuesday embraced fifty thousand dollars; the premium opened at 230.50% and closed at 230.30%. Thirty thousand

Tuesday, 7th Jany., 1896.

We published in a recent issue the live-stock census of the Province of B. Aires which gives the number of cattle now in the province at 7,195,000 head, shewing that in this regard the real stock is much below estimates formed before the census returns came to put the matter on a settled basis. The total number of cattle in the republic can be calculated as follows:—

Buenos Aires...	7,195,000	head
Entre Rios.....	2,899,000	"
Cordoba.....	1,894,000	"
Santa Fé.....	2,329,000	"
Corrientes.....	1,896,000	"
Pampa Central..	650,000	"
	16,863,000	"

Taking it for granted that in all the rest of the republic we have 8 million head, we can set down the total stock at 25 million head, which many will consider under the mark, though how it can be expanded would require very ingenious explanations. As to the increase though it is generally set down at 30 to 35 per cent; 25% would be a more prudential figure, this gives the annual increase at 6,250,000 head, subject, however, to usual reductions for consumption, export, mortality, etc., which may be calculated as follows:—hides exported 5,200,000, live cattle do 350,000 head, hides not exported, etc., 1,000,000, that is to say a total of 6½ millions, shewing, therefore, an annual decrease in the herds of 250,000 head. Of course these figures are not official, but they are taken from fairly reliable sources, and unless the average increase is over 25% per annum the export even at present represents an actual decrease of the capital stock, so that the latter remains at a stand-still.

Wednesday, January 8th 1896.

There was a gentle rise in the gold premium this morning and a slight spurt in the speculation. A lot of cash gold was thrown on the ring and was absorbed as fast as it was supplied. Meantime, the stiff contango continued for end of the month.

The news of fresh purchases of cruisers and iron-clads from the Italian navy yards is much commented on in the hall, and the general impression is that such heavy expenditure must affect the march of the gold market. It is understood that through the kind offices of the Italian Government Argentina will have two more armored cruisers, more powerful than the Garibaldi, and which will probably cost seven to eight millions of dollars. How the Argentine Government will manage to meet all these expenses is a puzzle, and our Financial Sphinx must be sorely perplexed.

Another formidable item of expenditure will be the construction of a naval port at Bahia Blanca; an enterprise of this kind must run into millions sterling. Add to this the completion of the Madero Port works, the two graving docks of the North Basin, and sundry other constructions and one may well enquire—where is the money to pay for all this? Or has the Argentine Government launched a big loan "sub rosa" of which we know nothing? It would be absurd to suppose that the Government is launching into such enormous expenditure without any idea as to how funds have to be provided for same. There must be something going on in the "coulisses" of the Finance office, but the market is kept in the dark.

About four hundred thousand gold dollars changed hands for cash at the first ring; the premium opened at 230.30%, rose to 231%, and closed hard at 230.90%. A small business was done for the end of the month; the premium opened at 233%, rose to 233.50%, and closed at 233%. Seventy thousand dollars were sold for the end of February; the premium opened at 235%, rose to 236%, and closed at 235.50%. The turn-over in gold this morning amounted to eight hundred thousand dollars. The market closed with a firm tendency all round.

Captain Joshua Slocum, the gallant skipper of the Spray, was warmly welcomed on Change to-day. All the brokers, consignees, and "barraqueros" took the greatest interest in questioning him on his dangerous cruise. But the gallant skipper can well exclaim "pejora passi" since he conducted the far-famed Destroyer from the States to Pernambuco during the Brazilian rebellion; half the voyage was done under water, and Captain Slocum wrote a most interesting description of the trip, which has appeared in bookform as well as in the columns of the American papers.

Thursday January 9th 1896.

A keen bullish blast swept through the gold market this morning and caused a sharp rise in the premium, but the speculation was of a dead-and-alive description, only seven hundred thousand dollars changing hands. The causes of the sudden rise in gold may be traced to the bad news from Europe, to the heavy expenditure going on here, and to a general feeling of distrust. Day by day the news of fresh expenditure for armaments leaks out, and the natural impression is that the National Treasury must be severely handicapped and the exchange market taxed to its utmost to meet all these extraordinary demands. Last year we all believed that three millions sterling would cover all this military expenditure, but to-day we find that the figure must run into at least three times that amount. Under the circumstances, the prospects of any lasting fall in the gold premium are dim and distant, since the nation is plunging deeper into debt every day. It is most fortunate that a splendid season enables the country to face all this expenditure, but we are nearing the end of our financial tether.

The sugar bug-bear is again on the tapis, but if possible in such a still more impossible form than that patronised by the Government that the whole thing would read like a gigantic joke but that it comes with the stamp of a Congress Finance Committee on it. Imagine the impracticability of constituting the Banco de la Nacion a sugar clearing-house, so to speak. It seems ridiculous, absurd. The project is to deposit the product of the 4% tax in the bank, which then goes into the sugar market and snaps up 25,000 tons at a price not exceeding 3 dollars, the stuff to be placed by the bank in the foreign markets it may deem best for the purpose. In other words, the bank is to enter the sugar business as a regulator, but subject to restriction of price, and if that price is not practicable the business is done with. A sardonic grin wreathed the face of the market to-day when the matter was discussed. Some dismissed the project as too utterly absurd to consider at all; others thought it a diplomatic ruse of Congress—a wild, jocose way of insinuating the futility of bounty and protection, and none could find a favorable word for it. We were not far wrong when we ventured to hint, in discussing the bill on its first appearance, that there was such obliquity of economic prevision in this business that there was just a probability of its developing eventually into issue of sugar certificates. If the Banco de la Nacion goes into sugar we are not immeasurably separated from the certificate, and it only shews to what extravagant lengths things can be carried.

The Finance Minister has informed the Minister of Foreign Affairs that, as the Customs Law for this year has been already voted by Congress, it is not possible to take any step towards the reduction of import duties on coffee, cocoa and vicuña skins asked for by the Bolivian Minister; but due attention will be paid to the said Minister's request on the first opportunity.

The following Internal Taxes were collected in December:—

	Litres	$
Alcohols.....	3,486,346	727,418
Beer	2,281,149	78,434
Wine.....	45,812	4,501
Tobacco	—	229,105
Matches.....	—	189,000
Stamps.....	—	18,900,000
Playing cards.	—	482
Interest.....	—	1,764
Fines	—	1,600
		1,222,385

Friday, January 10th 1896.

The denial given to all the rumors of purchase of more war-ships has removed a great load from the market, as a belief was gaining ground that this fresh expenditure would rush into two millions sterling, on the top of all that is being spent on account of armament ordered last year. It is also satisfactory to note that the increase in army forces voted by Congress will not be carried out for the present, and this is no small item, since it affects nothing short of six more regiments. It is quite evident that the Minister of Finance has impressed upon his colleagues in the Cabinet the urgent necessity of retrenching as much as possible. These facts are calculated to spread confidence in the market, the equanimity of which had been rudely ruffled by the recent rumors.

We see by telegrams from Chile that the Government there have deemed it expedient to let the £4,000,000 stg. loan stand over until the present war clouds in Europe blow over. It is surmised that the real cause of this delay in launching the loan is the reluctance of London bankers to take up what is viewed both in Chile and in London as a war-loan in disguise, and under such suspicions it will be very difficult to induce the public to subscribe. Another feature in the Chilian situation is the falling tendency of the exchange rate and the collateral efflux of specie. There must be something radically wrong on the West Coast when we see how the 18d. Conversion Scheme is jeopardised. Affairs in Brazil are also unsatisfactory: in Rio the rate of exchange is tottering at 9¼d. Here in our market where exchange at this stage of the season should be as firm as a rock, more especially as importation is so small, we also see a suspicious weakness in the situation; yet heavy gold shipments are announced from London for the Plate.

According to advices from the Mount the Minister of Finance, when taxed in the Chamber with a query as to whether the Government had accepted in the Lessa compact the onus of responsibility for all questions and claims that may arise, refused to reply, which leads to the conclusion that the stipulation does exist. Thus the nation not only has to hand over £300,000, but also to guarantee the claims of the original concessionaires against the Sociedad Uruguaya, Messrs. Bowen, Mallmann etc. and even against the Government itself. This might have been supposed from the start, as it was not likely the English lenders would take a hand in the lawsuit, but that it was not anticipated is apparent. There seems to be so much difficulty about the whole business that in spite of the evident general desire to get the money and start the bank, it is very doubtful if the obstacles will be smoothed over to the syndicate's satisfaction.

The whole town of Rio Cuarto is on "strike." The taxes were so monstrously expanded that the bakers, market gardeners, cartmen, jarvies, butchers, and milkmen all joined hand, and even the bootblacks chimed in on general principles. The enthusiasm ran so high, in fact, that the discontents made a demonstration for the benefit of the provisional mayor who promptly called on the 2 officers and a man, that constitute the police force, and the riot act would probably have been brought into play had there been one to read. All this sounds very funny, but is not so. It may develope into something very serious, such is the whole-souled unreasoning zeal with which the municipalities are piling up burthens on the public. We see it here in the way the Las Flores farmers are worried by the corporation, and we have frequently drawn attention to the hegira of colonists from Santa Fé—driven out by taxes. The country at large is beginning to resent this intolerable abuse, and unless there is a prompt cooling-off the consequences may be more far-reaching than at present seems likely.

The telegraph line to General Villegas will be inaugurated on Monday next with a great local flourish of trumpets. Governor Udaondo will be represented by his private secretary.

In Rosario there was a momentary scare over a reported appearance of Yellow Jack at Colastine. Fortunately there does not seem to be anything in the report, and the public health is excellent.

The flourishing town of Maipu has handed round circulars inviting the farmers and estancieros to take part in the rural shew to be held on 18th, 19th, and 20th February. Demands for space are requested to be promptly sent in to the organizing committee for publication.

The sugar-bounty bill brings us a metamorphosis daily; it seems to change form as readily as the chameleon changes colour. The latest phase is that Congress will suppress the intervention of the Banco de la Nacion as a regulator and provide for the formation of a syndicate of sugar-kings to look after the export of the surplus production, on the tender system, and we suppose with a maximun price limit, though this is not clearly stated nor even insinuated. This looks in every way more workable, than the Finance committee's proposition, which was the butt of the market. Still the objection to the business is not so much to the form as to the principle. There is no glossing over the heresy. It would seem as if some occult influence had overcome the manifest regugnance of the "patres conscripti" to the pill, but the market steadily refuses to believe in the business at all, and will do so until consummation brings conviction.

A new colony is about to be started on the banks of the Colorado, in the 5th department of the Pampa Central, the lands in question being the property of Messrs Piazza Hnos. A town will be formed, and the papers were signed yesterday. It is wonderful to note the great movement in the south these few months back. Colony after colony, and lands moving off at high prices where a year ago they would not have been looked at. This 5th department of the Pampa is at present suffering from a prolonged drought, according to advices received recently from that quarter. The once abundant pasture has disappeared and the stock is beginning to shew the effects.

On May 15th we had occasion to announce that several shareholders of the Edison Electric Light Company had lodged a protest before the Court, accusing Mr. Bright of having improperly sold the interests of the concern. We have now to inform our readers that this very grave charge has been completely thrown out by Judge Navarro, who has declared that no fault has been brought home to Mr. Bright, in the fulfilment of his duties as President of the Company, that could give rise even to a civil suit, much less to a criminal accusation. Judge Navarro therefore definitely dismisses the case accompanying this decision by a special declaration, to the effect that these proceedings in no wise affect Mr. Bright's god name, whose costs in the case are to be defrayed by the prosecutors.

The approval of the Railway Guarantees Bill by Congress was immediately cabled to London where the news produced such a good impression that Argentine stocks went up one point in spite of the general depression that damped Capel Court. The passage of this Guarantee Bill is a triumph for Minister Zorrilla, who spared no efforts to push the matter through. Only the other day he induced the Senate to reconsider the adverse vote of the House, and all may remember the eloquence with which he pleaded the cause of the Bill. The President of the Republic was also very eager to see the Bill pushed through, as he was well aware of the excellent effect it would produce in London. The Bill provides for an issue of 50,000,000$ to settle the much-vexed question. The boycotting of Argentine credit in London will cease now.

The Minister of Justice has ordered Surveyor Weirells to measure and subdivide the Choel-e-Choel islands, allowing him one year for the work, for which he will receive $25,000. When finished, the Government will decide what is to be done with the lots of land.

Saturday January 11th 1896.

This being the weekly liquidation, there was a little more activity in the gold market and a very sharp demand for cash gold. The supply of specie, however, was heavy, and all requirements were easily met; this was most fortunate as the feeling in the general market this morning began to veer round very fast to the bullish quarter, and any shortage in the supply of gold to-day would have entailed a sharp rise in the premium.

The Secret Sitting in the Senate to-day, allowing on that in the Deputies yesterday and the lengthy Cabinet Council in the Government House, gave rise to suspicions that fresh votes for armament are again on the "tapis." Some wag started the "bola" that a large foreign loan was voted—very like a whale. In the market at large there is a belief that the country is on the eve of making fresh purchases to increase the strength of the navy, and this conviction is not of a nature to strengthen any hopes in any improvement in the currency.

Over half a million gold dollars changed hands for cash this morning; the premium opened at 231%, fell to 230.80%, rose to 231.20%, and closed at 231%—a steady, stubborn market. Business for the end of the month embraced one hundred thousand dollars; the premium opened at 232.50%, and closed at 233.30%—a contango of 2.30. Eighty thousand dollars were sold for the end of February; the premium opened at 235.50%, rose to 236.50%, and closed at 235.50%. The turn-over in gold at the first rizg amounted to nine hundred thousand dollars.

Mr. Gonzalez Arrascaeta, the well-known live-stock broker, concluded a most important business to-day, which goes to prove the enormous growth of the live-stock export. He sold for account of Don Angel T. Alvear no fewer than 3500 "novillos" on the family estancia at Ramallo, at reserved price, to be delivered in two months, for export to Europe. It is only in the Argentine Republic that we see estancieros with such enormous numbers of cattle. As the animals are for export to Europe they may be reckoned first-class and in prime condition. The name of the buyer and the price we were unable to obtain; we congratulate Mr. Gonzalez Arrascaeta on such a splendid sale.

In Cordoba there is a feeling savouring strongly of that financial condition known as "very hard-up." The neighbours complain that the bank has restricted facilities, a diplomatic expression pregnant with meaning, and it is suggested that at all events the head-office should at least give the Cordoba branch the full capital allotted to it, which would tend somewhat to ease the strain. It is very inconsiderate of the bank to keep Cordoba in such suspense, but it is just possible there may be some reason for it. In fact we are strongly inclined to suspect that there is.

The German Transatlantic Bank has opened an agency in Santiago, Chile, having arranged preliminaries with the Finance Minister.

There seems to be extreme tension in matters financial up Rio way, as we see that the Camara Sindical de Comercio has resigned "en masse." The causes are not yet patent that have led to this extreme determination. Evidently it is some difference of opinion with the Government, as the latter by way of appeasing ill-feeling has offered to relax or modify in this sense the terms of the banking exchange act. The Brazilians are apparently such thorough out-and-outers that they take these things quite to heart, and it is not so long ago that we saw the announcement of a "financial crisis" there over the resignation of a bank manager. This is certainly morbid sensitiveness. The signing of the commercial treaty with Chile, which is to hold over five years, has created an excellent impression, and it seems that it is the forerunner of other measures calculated to draw the two countries closer together.

Bahia Blanca is already beginning to divest itself of its principal external garment in order to have free-play for the preparation for the Rural Show fixed for March next. White Bay intends to electrify the province this time, and the promoters have already expressed supreme contempt for time, trouble and money.

The sugar-bounty-bill seems in a fair way to defeat all anticipations. It was such an economic monstrosity that even the sugar kings themselves were divided about it, whilst the Government could not go further than patronizing it in the most shame-faced, apologetic way, yet Congress, where it met with the iciest reception at the start, has apparently now veered round so completely that it is actually expected to count a majority of votes. Such a change of front is inexplicable, and if it really turns out to be so, the impression in the market will be tremendous. However, the rumour may be only a sop to Cerberus, and it is to be doped that eventually this will prove to be the case.

At the "Licitacion" of 250 shares of the Edificadora" the following tenders were presented to-day:—

			Taken
81	at	71	—
50	"	72.50	—
343	"	73	119
210	"	75 to 90	—
634			

Another 300 will be bought in at the end of this month, when possibly the caucion weighing on the market may be closed. That only 684 shares have been offered out of 24,500 at a time that there is no movement in any stock shews well for the company. The shares have now 2$ intered running.

Mr. Martin Tupper Hood has been elected to the Board of the Montevideo Gas Co. Litd. in London, instead of the late Mr. Dodgson.

It is reported that the firm of Mudd and Co. are about to start coal deposits at White Bay, putting up $200,000 gold for this sole purpose.

The Branch of the Banco de la Nacion in Salta has closed its books for 1895 with a net profit of $50,000 and not a single morose debtor, which looks like a very clean bill of health; the discounts during the year were $1,146,000, of which estancieros got $382,500, farmers $132,000, industries $51,700 and various $41,000, the various rates of amortization being 10% quarterly for farmers, 25% estancieros and full rate without renewal for business houses. The province at large is keenly interested in the sugar-bounty-bill.

The chapter on the condition of the market is well reflected by our esteemed collaborateur, Don Carlos Lix Klett. The saddle, Pasqué system, is well worthy a study, the only point that should be modified is the high point in front, which for heavy galloping is a certain obstacle, on a rule big riders prefer the "recado" as there is less fear in hurting themselves when the horse stumbles, which is a very frequent affair in the camps. The news published from Bahia Blanca and its surrounding are very interesting and only show the importance these districts are assuming.

The following are the week's exports:—

	Tons		$ gold
Wheat.....	2,990	equal	67,275
Maize.....	9,870	"	157,920
Linseed.....	510	"	56,100
Wool.....	8,650	"	1,790,550
			2,071,845

The following are the total exports from all Argentine ports during the year 1895, with approximate value:—

			Equal $ gold
Wheat.....	1,046,000	tons	23,535,000
Maize.....	804,509	tons	12,872,144
Linseed.....	255,249	tons	9,699,462
Wool.....	196,055	tons	37,041,758
Flour.....	1,117,308	bags	2,234,616
Hides.....	3,693,366		15,605,805
Hay.....	455,171	bales	122,898
Frozen wethers.....	1,968,249		2,460,310
Live steers..	125,839		4,278,536
Live wethers	477,121		1,431,363
			99,402,892

Medici and Co. lesses of the Salubrity Works, have petitioned Government to return them £95,587 which they deposited in London as guarantee, and hold in place of it the $156,841 gold due to them on excess of an account of $845,051 gold on Cedula 3. The City Improvement Commissioners have advised Government to reject the petition.

The Minister of Finance has ordered titles to the following mining properties to be issued:—

Mine	Locality	Owner
La Maria..	Neuquen	Baker & Browns
Lastenia...	"	Schmidt & Co.
Belen	"	"
La Amelia.	"	P. & Dominguez
Juanita....	"	Schmidt & Co.
Teresa.....	"	"
Mercedes ..	"	"
Carmen....	"	"
La Legal ..	"	Quesada & Co.
Carmela ...	"	Schmidt & Co.
Amelia	"	"
Elisa.....	"	Bischoff & Co.
Clara.....	"	Golderdale & Co.
Julia.....	"	Olascoaga & Co.

Monday, January 13th 1896.

Another very healthy sign is the vitality noted in the immigration returns. In the first eleven days of this month, the arrivals have been 6723 souls, which is far ahead of the figure for corresponding period of last year, the total arrivals in January 1895, having been only 3,900 souls. Of the 6723 arrived, 2056 were placed in the Immigrants' Hotel and 1200 supplied immediately with work. This is a very promising opening of the year in this line.

The *Capital* of Rosario devotes a leader to the extraordinary zeal with which distraint is made on the colonists who happen to be behind hand with the almacenero or have not turned up on gate-day to salute the landlord. With a total disregard for the provisions of the law, implants of labour, cows, oxen, horses, seeds—anything in fact that comes to hand and is likely to inconvenience the farmer—are distrained by the bailiffs and the debtor left totally unprovided with the elements for continuing work. Naturally the distraint being illegal the colonist has redress in his hands, but it is only to be obtained through the courts, which would prove much more costly in the end.

This is what makes the farmer fight shy of the law courts, no matter how good his case may be, and, of course, until some corrective is applied the abuse will continue to be of long life. It is a crying shame to see the unwieldiness of the laws made the medium of rank oppression. Apparently, however, all over the republic, the J P's do not as they should but as they wish: a very melancholy state of affairs.

The slaughter at Liebig's for month of December was 12,350 head, being at the rate of 400 head per day.

In Rioja the drought has brought things to such a serious pass that advices from the Southern part, which is the grazing district, read like a chapter of horrors. The water in the dams and deposits having given out the animals went off like flies, and then the population was menaced. The absolute dearth of water began to cause a general migratory movement, but so late that mothers had to take their children in their arms and cover immense distances, as best they could, with the vultures hovering around waiting for the moment that exhausted nature would pay its tribute. The most harrowing experiences are reported, and though we have frequently alluded to this prolonged drought in the provinces, few have had an idea that it had reached such an extreme state. The formerly flourishing camps of Chamical, Belgrano and General Ocampo are now a desert.

The stevedores' strike is at an end. Messrs. Warskitt and Molenberg have, on behalf of the Society of Stevedores Contractors, agreed to pay the stevedores according to the scale of wages published by them. Work will be given to all hands without any prejudice being shown against the strikers by either masters or men.

The Executive has established the following scale of charges at Messrs. Zaballa and Co. live-stock wharf in the port from the 15th inst.:—

Loading:	$ m/n
Steers and horses, each...	0.70
Sheep and goats.....	0.08
Pigs.....	0.30
Discharging:	
Steers and horses, each...	0.50
Sheeps and goats.....	0.15
Pigs.....	0.30
Crane dues:	$ gold
Large.....	1.05
Sheep	0.01
Forrage:	$ m/n
Steers and horses (hay only)	0.70
Do do hay, maize and bran.	1.50
Sheep and goats (hay only)..	0.12
Do do hay, maize and bran	0.40
Pigs in corral.....	0.40
Do in gaipon.....	1.00
Entry Dues:	
Do do steers.....	0.08
Do do pigs.....	0.05
Do do sheep.....	0.02

Tuesday, January 14th 1896.

The secret vote for armament has not ruffled the equanimity of the gold market. In fact bears and bulls have an idea that too much money cannot be spent in placing the country on a proper military footing, and a whisper is now going round that the Finance Minister can obtain as much money as he needs in the London market. This fact may explain the semi-official utterances of Ministnr Romero, who has confided to the editor of the *Diario* that he believes in a fall in gold; information of this kind from such a very high quarter can only be volunteered when there are powerful reasons to confirm such statements by facts. We may, therefore, be assured that if Minister Romero believes in a fall in gold and makes his opinion public, there is something in the wind to counteract the bullish effect of secret votes in Congress and fresh expenditure in armaments. What can it be? The Sphinx is nodding and smiling.

Nearly a million gold dollars changed hands at the first ring in a bearish speculation. Business for cash exceeded three hundred thousand dollars; the premium opened at 230.80%, fell steadily, and closed at 230%, flat. A quarter of a million was sold for the end of the month; the premium opened at 232.50%, fell, and closed at 331.50%. Fair amounts were sold for to-morrow's fortnightly liquidation and for Saturday at a fraction above cash rates. Fifty thousand dollars were sold for the end of February at 235.50% to 234.50% premium, and a small business was done for end of March at 237 and 236.50%. The market closed with a weakening tendeney all round. The stiff contango continues. and the sharp demand for paper money also.

The terms of the ad-referendum commercial treaty between Chile and Brazil have leaked out, and we fail to see how it will alter very materially our trade relations with the ex-empire. One of the conditions is that shipping communication between the two signatory powers shall be fostered and forced by means of bounties granted to local enterprise, the Argentine Government to be invited to chime in with a view to the general development of South American trade. Well and good, if the bounties are munificent enough there will be no dearth of enterprise, but there is the rub; neither Brazil nor Chile is in a position to be very generous at present, so that in all probability the much desired development will be allowed to stand by for better times. The gist of the arrangements, therefore, hinges on the mutual concessions as regards imports. Brazil can place its unrefined sugar, coffee, yerba and tobacco in any form in the Chilian markets free of duty, whilst Chile in return gets a similar neighbourly turn for its flour, cereals, ordinary wines exclusive of champagnes, fruit, fresh or tinned vegetables and hay. Now as regards our relations with Brazil, the only two items in which Argentina is handicapped are hay and flour, as all the other products above mentioned pay no duty. Hay, taking into consideration the high cost of production and extra freight, as compared with this country, can take care of itself, since Chile is not in a position to compete advantageously, but with the flour it is different, and this is where the shoe pinches. Both the United States and this country will feel this pretty keenly, but as yet the business is not definite and therefore subject to modification.

The amount of specie arrived during the past year will take all by surprise except those who have followed the arrivals carefully, and the fact that the imports began in hard winter is looked upon as conclusive proof of the fact that the balance of trade is favoring us with the brazen images fashioned to Queen Victoria's likeness. We take the following figures from the Custom House Returns:—

From	$ Gold
Rep. Oriental.....	1,764,157
Paraguay.....	73,611
France.....	1,442,816
England.....	360,100
Germany.....	226,422
Brazil.....	65,665
Spain.....	1,500
Italy.....	16,012
North America.....	400,000
	4,620,383

To which must be also added the following sums not included in the above and which have either since arrived or are due:

From New York.

	£ Stg.
Per s.s. Etona.....	75,000
" " Leibnitz.....	100,000
" " Manitoba.....	75,000
" " Nile and Thames (Southampton).....	370,000
	£ 620,000

The total therefore is $7,720,383 gold. The data of gold exports are unfortunate not available, as it would be interesting to compare them with above.

The Land League cannot be said to be idle. It has in project a new mark system drawn up by Don Ricardo Newton on a more advanced line than the primitive, repulsive one at present in vogue, reform of the Constitution of the Province of B. Aires, the most radical part of which is the suppression of the M. P.'s emoluments, extirpation of scab, suppression of the deficiency noted in wool carried by train, and others of no less note and utility. We imagine, however, that there s an excess of theory and deficiency in practice about the Land League. It had the opening, cut to measure, as it were, to shew itself in the Las Flores business, where the corporation is worrying the farmers out of their wits, but it took no hand in the affair at all, though it might have afforded the opportunity of shewing itself practical and useful, as well as theoretical and ornamental. Less theory and more work is what is badly wanted.

The Finance Minister has authorized the Custom House of this port to sell to Messrs. Zaballa and Co, proprietors of the Live Stock Shipping Wharf, the two fire pumps that belonged to the Lanus deposits.

Wednesday, January 15th 1896.

The bearish blast that began blowing yesterday was very strong this morning as the gold market opened, but the heavy demands of the fortnightly liquidation upset the bearish boat and the gold premium resisted the fall in a most stubborn manner. Whilst Minister Romero confidently preaches a fall in gold from his gilded parlor in the Government-house, rumblings are audible in the West, and the whole market has turned its gaze to that quarter, perplexed and puzzled, willing to hope for the best and putting trust in providence, yet dreading the worst and watching every sign in the political sky. In many quarters distrust is again rampant, and this must act as a check on the bearish tendencies that influence the views of the Minister of Finance.

Private advices from London announce that Chile has not a ghost of a chance of launching her new four million sterling loan. Not a single leading banker will give a cent on that loan, which is viewed as a war loan "pur et simple." These London advices come from the very highest quarters and may be relied upon so far as London is concerned. It may happen, however, that Chile will meet with more success with the bankers of Berlin and Frankfurt-am-Main. Meantime, it is understood that the Argentine Government has received offers to the amount of several millions sterling to close certain outstandings. It seems to us as plain as a pike-staff that both Chile and Argentina are at the end of their financial tether, and that both must now make up their minds to settle their frontier difficulties on the basis of present armaments and finances. In London at least no more money will be advanced to buy ships and Krupp guns.

Argentine stocks, according to this morning's telegrams from London, are booming, the Funding Bonds having jumped since yesterday from 74¼ to 75¼—one point. Mark the coincidence—Minister Romero, the impenetrable Sphinx, opens his mouth to announce a fall in gold, Dame Rumour whispers a report about advances from London bankers, and the cable flashes the news of a sharp rise in Argentine Stocks. The instinct of the speculative market was not far wrong yesterday, and but for the unpleasant news about the resignation of Guerrero and the junketting to Barros Arana, the gold market would have fallen headlong to-day. The bears were much disappointed at both rings, as they did not expect such stubborness in the gold premium and such a heavy contango for February. It looks as if the gold market will hold out at present rates with a stiff "pase" from month to month: the latter operation is now being carried out on a large scale, much larger than the majority in the market think.

The best piece of news to-day was the telegram from London to Minister Neuquen Zorrilla announcing the first shipment of materials for the Southern Railway to begin the extension from Bahia Blanca to Fuerte Roca, where the Limay and Neuquen meet. Large quantities of materials are already stored in Bahia Blanca, and we shall soon see notices calling for thousands of navvies to carry out the earthworks. The contractor, we understand, is Mr. Malmen who years ago built the Villa Mercedes section of the Pacific Railway. Mr. Malmen leaves this week for Bahia Blanca. The Argentine Government is so anxious to push a head this railway that the Great Southern Railway will spare no effort to meet its wishes, and it is said that the Company with a little good will could complete the extension under one year, say in half the time stipulated in the concession law. This Neuquen Railway will give an immense impetus to the far South.

Advices from Punta Arenas were received to-day announcing that the small Gartland steamer La Prensa was cruising at the end of last month about States Island, all well aboard. Letters from her skipper, Commander Nunes, state that the little steamer has had a very hard time of it and cannot be relied on for navigation South of Cape Horn. The La Prensa will be back in Buenos Ayres at the end of January or beginning of February, that is to say a month sooner than expected. We suppose that both coals and provisions have run out. An expedition of a similar kind to cruise south of Cape Horn is being organized for the end of this year with larger craft and fewer risks.

To-day the s.s. Venus and Eolo of the ill-starred La Platense Company were taken over by Mr. Mihanovich the purchaser, who will keep them on the route, the new concern being styled Navegacion a Vapor Nicolas Mihanovich. Mr. Elias Lavarello has been named manager, the boats have been overhauled and refitted and conditions generally improved.

Thursday, January 16th 1896.

Another active, anxious, feverish day in the gold speculation. The bears made a great effort; they came down upon the market with horse, foot and artillery, but the gold premium kept its positions and refused to budge all morning.

The morning opened under unfavorable auspices. Firstly, the absurd vote in the Deputies on the Sugar Bill, which will fortunately remain a dead letter until next May; but the sweeping majority in favor of the tax and bounty ruffled the market and produced a most unpleasant impression. Secondly, the news from Chile about secret sittings and votes for two millions sterling to keep up the pace whilst the £4,000,000 stg. loan of Chile is pending. Thirdly, the sharp demand for paper money in our midst and the evident reluctance of the market to part with its gold,

These and many othsr minor causes went against the bears, who trumped up the good news from Europe with rise in wheat, maize, and wool prices. There can be no doubt that with the enormous production of the country and the extraordinary activity in exportation, as shown every morning in our shipping column, gold ought to be one hundred points lower. The Chilian muddle is responsible for the present high price of gold, general distrust, and heavy deficits in the Budget. Meantime, some enthusiastic operators for a fall cling to the Ministerial prophecy that gold is bound to fall headlong. In London, there can be no doubt, Argentina is regaining confidence, and, strange to say, at an awkward moment when all the stock markets of the world are depressed and the political horizon all round looks black. This morning's telegrams from Capel Court announce Argentine Funding Bonds in the vicinity of 76. another sharp rise since yesterday. All Argentine Railway stocks are strong.

There was not much comment passed in the market to-day about the passage of the Sugar Bounty Bill through Congress, or rather through the junior Chamber yesterday, as it was shrewdly suspected that the Bill would go through the Deputies with drums beating and colours flying as a kind of indication to the cane-brake province that the spirit is willing, whilst public opinion would be toned down and placated by the passive resistance of the Senate to form a quorum and take it into consideration—a pretty give-and-take juggle that means nothing positive and keept everyone in good humour. Even as is was, the Chamber could not digest the awful proposition of its committee to turn the Banco de la Nacion into a sugar clearing-house. It looked too much like turning the whole business into ridicule but the Deputies nevertheless set up a rank precedent by putting its seal to such a heresy—appearances or rather the realities have been saved, but at what an expense.

The Labour office, which is a branch of the Immigration Department, announces that it has an able-bodied appeal for hands of all kinds genders and sex, so that those is need of employment have only to apply at the office and they will be not only suited to the ground, but get their passage paid to the scene of their labours into the bargain. The office says it has an opening for 1518 ordinary laborers, 500 hewers of wood, 130 domestic assistants, 28 agricultural families, 44 farm hands, 20 cobblers, 10 carpenters, 10 miners, 8 cooks of the feminine persuasion and 2 masculine, 8 masons, 40 stone-breakers, 5 wine growers, 2 married couples and only one solitary girl. We might well say with the Prince of Wales when he perused Falstaff's dinner bill: "What but one penny worth of treacle to all this intolerable deal of sack". Are girls a drug in the market that but one specimen is required.

Alfalfa has taken a far deeper root in the Rio Negro valley metaphorically speaking, (as about its physical sowing qualities there is no question) than many suppose, and a correspondent from time-worn Patagones has written to rub us up for alluding to the business in a superficial way, without dwelling on the great advance that has been made in this line. He says that in the China Muerta there are 10 to 12 hectares, then some small alfalfares on the various estancias, larger ones on the Larregui and Belisle properties, whilst Mr. Anthony Casterg has a stretch of 30 hectares sown on an island near Patagones and 5 hectareas more in his quinta; at Laguna Grande there are others. Viedma must have at least 10 to 12 hectares. Mr. Iribarne has an alfalfar of 9 hectares and Mr. J. A. Sassemberg is about the biggest cultivator of all with 45 to 50 hectares. This is only a rough estimate of what has been sown, but it shews that the alfalfa is there and spreading apace.

Mr. Julian Solveyra, so well known in Bolsa circles, and at present manager of the Banco de la Nacion branch in La Plata, suggests to head quarters the advisability of increasing the capital at present available, which he reports too limited to cope with requirements. There are very few spots in this extensive country that do not suffer from the same ailment. They will, however, have to pull along without relief for the present, as though the crisis may be just turned, the times are not precisely elastic yet. There is a flourishing crop of hopes that they may be later on—perhaps about the close of the century.

Brazil has not come to the end of its economic tether yet, but it is making great strides in that direction. It has worked clean out all kinds of banking atrocities and exhausted itself in the endeavour to keep the population will supplied with emissions—the grand panacea for every squeeze. All that was wanted to touch every rung of the ladder of error topped by Argentina was the "assisted passage" business, and this we see has now been attacked manfully. Poor Brazil. The cup is now brimful. No Italians need apply. The best immigrant for South America has to stand aside, as it is, perhaps, expected that he needs neither assistance nor encouragement whilst a brisk push will be made to entice the scourings of Northern Europe, though handicapped by climate, habits and language as regards assimilation. Brazil might have taken warning from us not to run its head against a stone wall, but like a throughbred nigger it does not like to give in without a fair trial.

Brazil is very indignant at the insinuation that there are any secret clauses in the treaty with Chile. It scouts the idea of being even suspected of any desire to hurt its cousin and neighbour Argentina, protesting eternal friendship—in the way of business. Advices from Rio to-day give the lie courteous to the rumours. There is therefore, nothing to apprehend in this respect.

The movement in Rosario port during year 1895 was:—

	steamers	tonnage
Arrivals.....	405	508,704
Departures.....	407	595,021
	sailers	tonnage
Arrived.....	358	244,570
Cleared.....	349	224,892

Mr. Bonnemaison, who is in charge of the harbour improvement works there, which simply amount to dredging as much and as often as they can, thinks the dredges quite sufficient for the object in view, though they are at present doing very little in view of the swollen state of the river.

Mr. Chas. C. Cumming of Bahia Blanca favors us with the following:—

Exports of bales from B. Blanca—

1895—	wool	Bales skins	hair
Dec. 24 already advised.	8878	351	28
Dec. 27 ss. Toro, Buenos Ayres.....	352	54	
1896—			
Jan. 9 s. s. Rutherglen, Antwerp, etc....	3285		
	12,515	505	28
Same date 1895.....	8287	462	8

Vessels loading and discharging in B. Blanca—

S. s. Twickenhan, 1,603 tons, loading bales for Antwerp and Dunkirk.

Bq Bombay, 952 tons, waiting for charter.

Schr. Arthur M. Gibson, 296 tons, discharging cargo from U. States.

Vessels expected in B. Blanca, with railway material for the B. Blanca and North Western Railway Company.

S. s. Roumania, 1,555 tons, will load bales for Antwerp and Dunkirk.

S. s. Zoe, 1,437 tons, do do for do do.

We take from Mr. Printzenskold's valuable circular:—

Exports from the port of Rosario during December—

83,284 dry hides.
1,064 sated do.
3 bales sheepskins.
147 do hair.
56,223 do hay.
8,507,411 kilos wheat.
1,867,539 do maize.
1,706,666 do bran.
79,310 do linseed.
750,000 do bones.
72,000 do ash.
2,393,425 do quebracho wood.
52,935 horns.
625,620 kilos flour.

Sundries—

400 horse hides.
46 casks tallow.
10,420 kilos bones
96,000 oil cakes.
58,680 kilos birdseed.
58 bales kid-skins.
14,650 kilos lead ore.
50 calves.
45 mules.
5 calfskins.

Friday, January 17th 1896.

It is quite evident that the supply of cash gold is growing at the ring. Day after day very large amounts are flung on the market, and it is strange that the premium does not break under the pressure. Those who take the trouble to peruse the lengthy column of shipments of produce which we publish daily under Shipping News can get an idea of all the produce gold that must be steadily coming upon the market. By that list we see the extraordinary movement going on in the docks, Basin, and in the Riachuelo, and the wonder is that with such an export trade the supply of produce gold does not run higher.

If the supply is great, the demand is quite as steady. Every Saturday we see a withdrawal of half a million dollars from the liquidator's counter; at the fortnightly settlement on the 15th inst. another half million was picked up. There appears to be no lack of paper money at present rates to rake in all the gold offered. To-day half a million gold changed hands for cash; the premium opened at 229.50%, rose to 229.80%, and closed at 229.60%. Two hundred thousand dollars were sold for the end of the month; the premium opened at 230.50%, fell to 230%, and closed at 230.50%. Business for the end of February embraced one hundred thousand dollars; the premium opened at 232.50%, rose to 233%, and closed at 232.50. Something was done for the end of March at 235%. The market closed with a steady feeling.

National Cedulas F were a shade weaker at 79. National Cedulas E changed hends at 90. La Plata Cedulas fell to 17.60. Internal Bonds were quoted at 76, Funded Bonds of the Floating Debt at 77.20, and Catalinas shares at 3.20 and 3.30.

The following is a summary of the business effected at the first ring to-day:—

$ 420,500 for cash at 329.50-50--70--60--70-50-70-60-70-60-70-80-70-60 50-60-70-60-60-329.60.
$ 188,000 January 31st at 330.50-30-330--330.50-20-50.
$ 110,000 January 18th at 329.50-329.60-50-60-80-70-50-60.
$ 30,000 January 20th at 329.70-60.
$ 32,000 January 25th at 329.80-330-329 90-330.
$ 25,000 February 15th at 331.50.
$ 120,000 February 29th at 332.50-333-332.50-60-50.

$ 940,500

National Hypothecary Cedulas—
For cash..F 21,500 at 79.00.
For cash..E 1,900 at 90.00.
Provincial Hypothecary Cedulas—
For cash. 8% 27,000 at 17.60.
Internal Bonds 1892—
For cash.. 1,600 at 76.00.
Funded Bonds of the Floating Debt—
For cash.. 1,000 at 77.20.
Catalinas Moles—
For cash.. 400 at 3.20-30.

Value of gold coins in moneda legal according to closing gold quotations of first ring:—

Ounce =..... 53.64%
Sovereign—..... 16.61%

A "caucion" of 450,000 La Plata Cedulas was effected to-day in one of the banks at 10 per cent quotation of the stock. Paper money continues in sharp demand at 8% and shows no tendency to relax. The demand for gold is quite nominal at 7%, yet holders of gold do not let go and hang on by their teeth to their specie and continue paying a stiff price in the operation.

This was a dull day in exchange circles and ready bills were not superabundant. Forward exchange was easier. Sterling bills were quite nominal at 43¾ d., francs at 5.09 to 5.10 on France and Belgium, and marks at 4.12½ on Germany.

Telegrams from London to-day quoted an easier money market at 1¾%. Argentine Funding Bonds which had risen so fast fell ¼, back to 75.

Telegrams from Rio Janeiro this evening quoted the exchange rate on London at 9 3/16 d.

Fresh shipments of gold from England to the Plate were cabled to-day, about two hundred thousaud sovereigns coming out.

Our colleague *El Diario* let the cat out of the bag to-day and published all the arcana of the Chilian negotiation in London for a loan of £6,000,000 stg. The business may be considered a complete failure, as neither London nor Berlin will go into it. To please the bankers the Chilian Congress reduced the original amount to £4,000,000; now it is reduced again, to £2,000,000, and even in this shape the loan cannot be carried out. The bankers smell a rat.

The minute way or system in which the coast guard system is to be conducted here will cause admiration for simplicity and economy if it turns out all efficacious. In this regard we note that the Finance Minister has asked the Revenue office to name an employee to look after the guano business on the Southern coast, with a view to protecting fiscal interests. Perhaps he will be perched on Monte Hermoso and furnished with a patent, double-barreled, high-pressure telescope with an easy range of Fireland and the Falklands, and a telephone to transmit orders, or perhaps he will be a peripatetic inspector and superintend the loading of guano on the spot. The south coast, however, is a big stretch and will take up all his time, especially if he is not provided with a coadjutor.

The Far South still. The Ushuaia left yesterday for Fireland a full ship, 11 cabin and 24 steerage passengers, the former including Drs. Lahitte and Alboff who go on a scientific exploring expedition, and the latter 20 convicts—9 women and 11 men, who volunteered for the convict station about to be started down south. As we have frequently pointed out, this settlement is an admirable move of the Government to turn a loose element into a useful chanel, and the Governor has very rosney hopes of being able to mould it into a prosperos colony. The Ushuaia will not return. She is to be left below for local service.

After working ourself into a very enthusiastic moral frame of mind over the alluring picture of the abandoned criminal regretting the evil of his ways and turning mind and hands to a sounder, more moral and more useful occupation, civilizing the aborigine, making up the wilderness and peopling the frontier—the picture has been rudely shattered. The volunteers repented of their good resolutions just as the anchor was being catted, and turned the Ushuaia into a bedlam, with the result that they were all marched ashore again. Argentine convicts must be an incorrigible lot, surely, and it was grossly inconsiderate of them to allow such golden hopes to be built up only to be dashed again to the ground. It seems a hopeless case.

Mr. J. J. S. Russell, son of the late Mr. J. G. Russell, has applied to the Courts to be allowed to intervene in the probate to the estate of his father the assets of which are stated at 300,000$, including several city properties, camp in the partido of Pila and province of Santa Fé, one hundred and odd thousand dollars in Dock Sud shares, also some cedulas and Brazilian mining shares.

Tandil advices report camps and animals in splendid order and harvesting just started. The crops promise a fine yield.

Closing the accounts of the Province of Bs. As. for 1895 has been a more cheerful business than for many years past, as after paying all ordinary expenditure there was still something over, nearly 1¼ million of dollars and considerably over ¾ of a millions in bonds, which certainly looks as if the clouds were clearing. The revenue calculated for 1895 was $10,756,028 and the receipts amounted to $11,352,737, so that there was a superavit of $596,700. Whilst the expenditure calculated at $9,644.077 only consumed in reality $8,792,417, shewing an economy of $851,659 This prudent administrative system in straitened circumstances of economizing in the expenses and under-estimating the revenue is beginning to shew the results expected, in spite of the fact that several of the items of revenue have shewn a falling off as compared with other years, the main delinquent in this line being the Telegraph Department. On the other hand the stamp duties, port dues, licenses and land tax all shew a notable increase, particularly the latter, which returned a million over the estimates. The following are the salient figures of the accounts:—

		$
Revenue.....		11,412,597
Expended in seme..		59,860
Net revenue.....		11,352,737
Calculated.....		10,756,028
Superavit.....		596,709
Expenditure calculated.....		9,644,077
Actually expended.	8,953,241	
Returned.....	160,825	8,792,418
Economised.....		851,659

The expenditure not set forth in the budget is set down at $2,016,276 and for special laws (charged to budget) $210,974.

The principal items of revenue were as follows:—

	Collected	Estimated
Land tax.....	3,481,656	2,662,390
Port dues.....	613,098	600,000
Stamp duties..	4,263,416	3,800,000
Licences.....	1,416,780	1,105,000

The South American Bank Note Co., which paid very nearly a total penalty to the Fire Fiend a short time ago, handed round circulars to-day advising its large circle of customers that every department of its big business is in full swing and working order except the type foundry, and this will soon, it is announced, be also on its legs repolished, refitted and as juvenile and buoyant as ever. The Company has, therefore, let no grass luxuriate under its feet. As soon as a correct estimate of the property in paper, material, etc., destroyed or damaged was arrived at a cable was promptly despatched home for fresh supplies, a business-like alacrity that speaks well for the management of this business.

The gold speculation was active at the second ring and the premium, in a fit of weakness, dropped gently under 229%. About five hundred thousand dollars were sold, nearly half this amount for delivery to-morrow; the premium opened at 229.50%, fell steadily, and closed at 228.70¼. Two hundred thousand dollars were sold for the end of the month; the premium opened at 230.20%, fell rapidly, and closed at 229.40%. A small business was done for the end of February, the premium closing at 232¼. National Cedulas F fell to 78.50 and La Plata Cedulas to 17.50.

The following is a summary of the operations effected to-day at the second ring:—

$ 205,300 January 18th at 329.50-40-30-20 329-329.20-10-329-328.80-329-328.80-70-80-70.
$ 202,000 January 31st at 330.20-330-329 80-330-329.80-60-50--50-50-40.
$ 15,000 January 2n2d at 329.
$ 10,600 January 18th at 329-329.20.
$ 45,000 February 15th at 331.50-331--331.30-331-331.20.
$ 60,000 February 29th at 332-331.50-332

$ 547,300

National Hypothecary Cedulas—
Jun. 18..F 8,000 at 78.50.
Provincial Hypothecary Cedulas—
Jan. 18.. 11,000 8% at 17.50.
Jan. 18..G 5,000 at 16.40.
Depositors' Bonds of the Nat. Bank—
Jan. 18.. 6,500 at 98-97.50.
Catalinas Moles—
Jan. 18.. 100 at 3.30.

BANKING EXCHANGE RATES

BANKS	AT 90 DAYS Gold	AT 90 DAYS Paper	AT SIGHT Gold	AT SIGHT Paper
London				
England.....d.	48 1/8	14.1/2	47 31/4	14.5/16
France.....fcs.	5.05	1.52	5.00	1.50
Italy.....lrs.	5.46	1.64½	5.42	1.62½
Spain.....pts.	5.95	1.79½	5.90	1.78
Germany....mks	4.08	1.23	4.05	1.21
Britanico				
England.....d.	48	14.1/2	47 5/8	14.3/8
France.....fcs.	5.04	1.52	5.00	1.50½
Italy.....lrs.	5.48	1.65	5.44	1.64
Spain.....pts.	—	—	—	—
Germany....mks.	4.09½	1.23	4.05½	1.22
Antwerp.....fcs	—	—	—	—
London and Brazil				
England.....d.	48 1/8	14.1/2	47 3/4	14.3/8
France.....fcs.	5.05½	1.52	5.02½	1.50
Germany...mks.	4.09	1.23	4.05	1.21
Spain.....pts.	—	—	5.95	—
Italy.....lrs.	—	—	5.43	—
Brazil.....reis	—	—	263$200	—
N. York.....$	—	—	1.03½	—
Montevideo....	—	—	1/8 o/o	—
Soberanos.....	—	—	1/8 o/o	—

Provincial Bank cheques.. 28 %.
Bonos and Coupons..... 15.80%

Mr. Martin Meyer, the leading hide-broker reports as follows for the fortnight:—

Sales from 1st to 15th January:—
Dry ox hides for North America—
No sales; prices nominal.
5,000 hides for the North of the Continent—
"Matadero" ox and cow hides; prices nominal.
Camp hides, second-class, at $2.20 and $3.30 gold.
20,000 hides for France, Italy and Spain—
10,000 classified and "desecho" hides from this province at $2.90 to 2.60 gold.
5,000 Entre Rianos and Correntinos at $2.70 and 2.35 gold.
1,000 Cuyubanos reshipped, at $2.40 gold.
1,000 do heavy at $2.89 gold.
3,000 calfskins at $2.40 gold.
In stock—3,000 hides from Corrientes.
"Saladero" salted ox hides—
No sales. In stock 7,000 hides.
"Matadero" salted ox hides—
20,000 ox and cow hides at reserved price. No stock.
"Saladero" tallow—
250 pipes and bordalesas at $9¾ gold on board. In stock 350 pipes.
"Matadero tallow—
500 pipes and bordalesas at reserved price. No stock.
Salted "potro" hides—
4,000 hides, 15 kilos at $2.87½ to 2.80 gold. No stock.
Potro grease—$2.70 to 2.80 m/n.
Jerked beef—No sales.

Slaughter to 15th January:—

	1896 Head	1895 Head
Buenos Ayres.....	74,300	58,900
Argentine and Oriental Republics.....	78,800	63,700
Montevideo.....	113,800	149,500
Rio Grande.....	—	—
	266,900	265,100
	1894 Head	1893 Head
Buenos Ayres.....	69,700	57,000
Argentine and Oriental Republics.....	108,500	36,200
Montevideo.....	95,400	104,600
Rio Grande.....	13,000	42,000
	286,600	239,300

The 47th number of the *Produccion Argentina* is one mass of interesting matter, in all estancieros will read the review on the camps with pleasure, as it treats on the principal districts in the province. Amongst the other articles we notice an excursion in the Rural Tramway from the Chacarita to Carmen de Areco. An important item in the "Revista" is the announcement of an auction of milch cows in the establishment of Mr. E. Ramos Mejia by Messrs. Funes and Lagos.

Government has accepted the tender of Messrs. Pertili and Co. to enlarge the pumping house at Puente Chico for $280,000.

The Finance Minister has allowed 155 cases of materials for the Riachuelo dredges and 300 barrels of Portland cement for the Salubrity work, all from England, to be despatched duty free.

The Finance Minister has refused to purchase for coast guard service the small steamer Capitan, patriotically offered to him by Signor R. Giuliani.

The changes proposed by the Engineers' Department in the plans for canalizing the Arroyo Tala in Catamarca have been approved by Government.

The Custom-House receipts to-day were:—

	$ paper	$ gold
Imports and exports to-day.....	242,614	18,277
Returns of the year up to date.....	3,265,807	399,898

The Minister of Finance has fixed the price of gold for payment of Custom-dues at 328 for Saturday, January 18th.

SALES AND AUCTIONS.

Bullrich and Co, took in hand to-day a fine stretch of camp in Entre Rios, Department of Villaguay, 6 leagues from the town studded with a perfect forest of valuable timber, which alone, according to the auctioneer, is worth more than the price put to the whole property. The camp is situated on the Arroyo Tigrecito, covers an area of 5399 hectares and is surrounded-ly by the Elia, Diaz, Abella, Velazquez and Smith properties. Put up with reserve of $8 the hectare it was knocked down at this rate to Mr. Antonio Hiriart.

Tattersall's had a big gathering for the sale of the fine batch of rams imported by Don Diego Church, which sold as follows:

	$	Buyers.
Lincoln rams	1600	M. Dovel
" "	1620	B. Lopez
" "	950	"
" "	650	J. Vasquez
" "	580	Kelsey and Co.
" "	610	"
" "	480	Saenz Valiente
" "	520	Lourtet
" "	520	"
" "	480	Bintana
" "	820	R. de Azua
" "	680	Mariñelarena
" "	470	Diaz
" "	480	"
" "	700	"
" "	500	Galarce
" "	380	Etchepare
" "	560	"
" "	640	Alraguin
" "	610	"
" "	520	Ojea
" "	500	Caro
" "	400	Duncan
" "	340	J. Fernandez
" "	470	R. Cuto
" "	480	G. Ham
" "	460	"

PRODUCE MARKETS.

A change came over affairs to-day, the attendance in the various markets and deposits was the largest noticed this month. In a few hours from 800,000 to a million kilos of wool changed hands, the prices were the same, the demand pointed all towards fine merino wools, both German and French artistas operated. It was a piece of luck for consignatarios that these sales took place, as we heard from a good authority that the directors of the Central Market had decided to close its doors to any more produce.

In the 47th number of the *Produccion Argentina* we see that it is calculated that 60,000,000 kilos have passed through the Central, 9,000,000 more than this time last year. Talking about the Central, we heard that a meeting was held in the Camara Mercantil to discuss the new regulations which some exporters in hides are trying to introduce, the decision arrived at was, that no consignatarios should realize any sale unless it were done according to the old system.

The arrivals in produce were very heavy to-day, in the Central 800,000 kilos of wool were received; the Constitucion received alsoo several consignments, but far below the other market. It is strange that this year the clip in Australia, and the Cape has fallen off whereas ours has increased, the deficit in those two sheep growing countries is estimated at 170,000 bales. It is also a well known fact that the number of sheep in the United States has been diminishing rapidly,

Most of the sales made to-day were done by Messrs. Devoto Balbiani and Co., the prices were, some special light cross Lincoln from the South at 11 and 11.50 good classes 10 and 10.50, fine wool 9 and 9.50, mezclas are very low.

As we stated yesterday, the interest for cereals has commenced to diminish, the fall in prices was distinctly marked this morning. Exporters seem to have had their fill of maize, their contracts are pretty well complied with. During the spurt we heard that one firm alone picked up 134,000 bags which were immediately exported to Europe. The demand reached such a point that all parcels were bought up with the exception of the rotten ones. A sale of 1,000 tons in Campana, on board, at 3.20 was reported yesterday. The telegrams from London to-day maintain the usual prices, notwithstanding the enomous sales effected daily; linseed has also improved. Owing to the large arrivals. wheat has run down, for special French and tuselas 7.70 is offered and for barletta 7.20. Linseed is at 10.70 and 10.20, operations were limited, as the arrivals are very reduced. Some parcels are expected shortly: this will tend to give a little more life to the transactions.

From the Rafaela colony we hear that afiairs are not looking as well as was expected, as fast as the corn passes through the threshers, the colonists are obliged to sell to meet their bills, this is rather rough, as they are obliged to let go at very low prices.

The telegram from Europe to Rosario on the slight fall in wheat has left a certain depression on the market. The laxity in operations is put down greatly to exporters refusing to buy before they have finished loading their present cargoes; then the reaping is advancing very slowly, and buyers don't care to make contracts without seeing the parcels. The general and current price is 6.60; 500 tons were sold at 6.65, the wheat was a very superior class; some other parcels fetched up to 6.80 and 6.95, but their transactions do not influence the markets, as everybody knows why these rates are paid. The demand for maize is limited, 3.20 is paid for sound stuff; 3,000 bags good class were sold at 3.05, inferior classes are quoted at 2.50 and 2.60.

Consignatarios can't understand why maize does not command more competition, as the article in Buenos Aires is firm and the sales large.

A certain calmness has come over business in linseed; there is a lot sold, but the parcels are arriving very slowly. Exporters are endeavouring to get in their lots as soon as possible, and this naturally puts a great stop to new contracts. The market prices are 10.60 and 10.70, for lots on hand a little more is paid.

Cereals continue improving in Montevideo, both old and new wheats are stiffly sought for, the price has risen ten cents; the principal sales were: 2,000 bags from San José at 2.25, 1,600 do from Canelones at 2.35 and 2.40; a few other parcels were sold at more or less the same prices. Maize was firm, but the sales were comparatively small: a lot of 253 bags was picked up for "consumo" at 85 cents. Messrs. P. Denis and Co. have sold the jerked-beef of a "faena" of 2,100 animals for Brazil at a reserved price. A few days ago we announced that several important sales of salted hides were on hand; to-day, however, the details were made public. Messrs. Fregeiro, Alciaturi and Co. sold from 1,000 to 2,000 salted steer hides of 31.25 kilos at 20 dollars, and Messrs. Arrivillaga and Co. 2,000 do at 20 also, and 1,000 salted cow hides of 23 kilos at 18 dollars the 100 kilos. During the past two weeks the movement in the saladero line was as follows:—10,000 salted hides at prices from $17 to 19.75 and 20, and 1,400 pipee and bordalesas of tallow at 9 and 9.05. The wool markets are now better attended, the demand has also increased, but prices are at a standstill. The principal sales were:—15,000 kilos from Treinte y Tres at 2.30, 8,000 do from Godoy at 2.30 and 2.25, 4,000 do from Chileno at 2.40; the other sales amounted to 38,000 kilos at 2.05, 2.15 and 2.30 per 10 kilos.

Mercado Central de Frutos.

Arrivals—244 waggons with 771,384 kilos wool, 2238 parcels sheepskins, 1835 do cow hides, 62 do horse hides, 31 parcels various, 19bags hair, 2 bags ostrich feathers, 92 casks grease, tallow and oil and 1064 bags maize.

Once de Setiembre.

Arrivals—240 waggons with the following produce:

46 bags 'triguillo,' 149 do linseed, 164 do bird-seed and 1510 bales hay.

Sales:—

				$
Morocho	Maize	exportation	at	3.10
"	"	consumo	"	3.00
"	"	"	"	2.90
Yellow	Maize	exportation	"	3.30
"	"	"	"	3.10
"	"	"	"	3.10
"	"	"	"	3.05
"	"	"	"	2.90
"	"	Riachuelo	"	3.50
"	"	Riachuelo	"	3.45
"	"	'consumo'	"	2.50
Wheat	French	old superior	"	7.80
"	Tusela	new superior	"	7.60
"	Barletta	new good	"	7.30
"	French	" "	"	7.35
Bran		good	"	3.30
Hay		mezcla superior	"	28.00
"		good	"	26.00
"		inferior	"	15.00

Barracas al Sud.

Arrivals:—120 waggons with 13,582 sheep.

Sales—

	from $	to $
Capones mestizos Lincoln	5.80 "	6.10
Capones Rambouillet and Lincoln	5.00 "	5.80
Do and sheep Rambouillet and Lincoln	4.20 "	—
Do Rambouillet	4.00 "	5.80
Capones and sheep	3.50 "	5.30
Sheep Rambouillet	2.70 "	9.70
Borregas	3.00 "	3.40
Do. Lincoln	2.00 "	2.50

Corrales.

	Number
Arrivals	2259
Slaughter:—	
Steers, cows and calves	1557
Spoiled carcases	3
	1560

Sales:—

		$		$
Steers fat	from	54.00	to	55.00
" " meat	"	47.00	"	48.00
" " good	"	28.00	"	39.00
Cows fat	"	43.00	"	53.00
" " meat	"	30.00	"	32.00
" good "	"	20.00	"	28.00
Calves large	"	14.00	"	19.00
" small	"	9.00	"	11.50

To-day's Exports.

The following were the shipments at the Madero port to-day:—

Steamer	Shipper		Kilos
Campinas.	A. Baux	wool	29657
"	H. Fuhrmann	"	30219
Crefeld....	A, Braux	"	42542
Ethelaide..	Mausurel fils	"	33271
Parahyba.	"	"	64068
"	A. Brauss	"	44662
Wehtstone	Peltzer fils	"	2437
Holyrood..	H. von Eicken	"	30529
Siberian...	H. Caullier	"	229081
Crefeld....	H. Fuhrmann	"	66068
Castlemoor	Lausen y Co	"	74648
Uruguay..	C. W. Fremery	cow hi's	28500
Union.....	W. Williamson	guano	64440
JH.Bowers	C. Ravara	cow hides	9270
V. H. Kockins.....	B. Altgelt	wool	47213
Ciampa Emilia..	F. F. de Pedro	bones	40000
Union.....	Williamson	guano	45058
Whetstone	A. Brauss	cow hides	38190
Laurea....	C. S. Roberts	dry hides	6342
"	"	calf	731
Khio.....	A. Braux	"	17000
Russian Prince..	W. Josse	maize	58000
Newton...	W. Bertran	"	49891
Etruria...	B. Altgelt	"	70000
Byzanz...	E. A. Bunge	"	52000
Lusitania.	Bunge y Born	"	62080
Newton...	W. Bertran	"	71000
Itaparica.	B. Duffy	"	79381
Holyrood.	E. Gresblin	hide trim	10782
Etruria...	Cuatrefages	wool	46750
Crefeld...	W. Schlief	"	7736
Kestor....	W, Josse	maize	90075
" ...	Wiengreen	"	34800
Rosarian..	Maresca	"	22776
Tejo.....	Camartino	potatoes	1861
"	Boadle y Co.	maize	157600
"	Guthmann	"	84040
"	"	"	25600
Velleda...	B. Altgelt	"	276700
D. Olaf...	Boadle y Co	"	198000
Newton...	W. Beltran	"	87700
"	W. Josse	"	10275
"	Payton & Co.	"	7700
C. Antrim.	S. Z. Danon	"	38625
A. Maria..	"	"	102900
J. Artieri.	Tewes and Co	"	17920
Holstein..	Ashton and Co	"	36000
J W Taylor	Gibson y Hns	wool	44188
Siberian..	Alphonse Six	"	44994
Kelvingrove...	Alphonse Six	"	12276
"	H. Caullier	"	61591
Castlemoor	Bremen	cow hides	12534
Byzenz....	Bunge y Born	maize	200000
Lusitania.	"	"	110300
"	Bunge y Born	"	125600
Gerona....	O. Bemberg	"	37660
"	S. Z. Danon	"	28000
"	Payton & Co	'rebacillo'	34080
J. Taylor.	W, Bertram	maize	88760
Castlemoor ..	J C Fisher	"	2800
"	"	'rebacillo'	9640
Khio.....	W. Bossult	maize	47250
Caffaro ...	L. Camartino	oil-cake	10720
Campinas.	Cuatrefages	wool	8106
"	A. Brauss	"	4209
"	Bonnaffe	"	77559
"	L. Zernick	horse hides	6556
"	"	calf	1266
Uruguay..	Bouche	wool	14672
"	Petit y Co.	"	59885
Jeanara...	Larthois freres	"	36601
"	W. Bossut	"	21208
"	H. Womer	maize	22050
"	W. Bertran	"	206550

LIVE-STOCK.

			No.
Escalona.	Mitchell	steers	296
Giovanna	Roca	"	54

The following were the cereal shipments at different ports to-day:—

	Kilos	
Ensenada	2680280	Maize
San Nicolas.....	766825	"
Villa Constitucion	442000	"
Santa-Fe.....	471000	Linseed

La Plata Port

Jan. 17th.

GENERAL

The following live-stock were exported from the Muelles and Depositos during the year 1895:

1895	Steers	Horses	Sheep
Jan.....	233	4	6,763
Feb.....	2,706	—	11.198
March...	3,038	61	22,094
April....	1,752	—	14,978
May.....	2,772	216	20,932
June....	2,157	398	18,235
July....	2,851	—	20,299
Aug.....	2,537	3	16,324
Sept.....	1,778	—	13,555
Octob...	3,135	17	11,124
Nov.....	921	—	4,707
Dec.....	1,046	8	5,518
Total...	24,926	707	165,728

From the same wharves the following were the exports from 1890 to 1895 both inclusive:—

Year	Steers	Horses	Sheep	Pigs
1890.	1685	—	3535	—
1891.	7007	2731	10972	—
1892.	4430	837	4262	60
1893.	14380	71	8407	988
1894.	6999	468	30211	1243
1895.	24926	707	165728	—
Total	59427	4814	223115	2321

BIRTHS.

On December 31st, the wife of Mr. John C. Dodd, of a son.

On Jan. 5th. at 2864 Paraguay, the wife of Norman H. Clutterbuck, of a daughter.

On Jan. 5th, at Calle Victoria 2984, the wife of Michael J. Duggan, of a son.

At Guaimallen, Mendoza, on 1st January, 1896, the wife of H. Tighe Rea, of a daughter

On January 6th at Calle Tucuman 1222, Belgrano, the wife of J. Manzano, of a son.

On December 22nd, at Estancia La Reserva, Napostá Chico, Bahia Blanca, the wife of Alexander G. Gifford, of a son.

At San Martin, F. C. R., the wife of John Mulhall, of a daughter.

On the 4th ult., at Peekskill, U.S., the wife of Mr. J. Nicolson. of a daughter.

On the 9th inst., at the Sola Dwellings, the wife of R. MacDonald, of a son.

On January 12th, at 2669 Calle Rivadavia, Belgrano, the wife of R. L. Rowe, of a son.

On January 11th, at Belgrano, the wife of Mr. L. Corry Smith, of a son.

On January 14th, the wife of J. B. Hall, Temperley, F. C. S., of a daughter.

On Jan. 13th, at the Estancia La Favorita, Tandil, the wife of Colin Macfarlan, of a son.

On January 14th, the wife of Lamont Smart, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

On the 1st January 1896, at Cordoba, Argentine Republic, by the Revd. Archdeacon Schimield, Louis St. George Taylor, fourth son of Colonel Thomas Taylor, late Bengal N. L. of Dulwich Common, London, to Jane Harriett, only daughter of E. S. Gillman, granddaughter of the late Herbert Gillman, Woodbrook, Dunmanway, County Cork. and of the late D. G, Douglas L.L.D. Cork.

On January 7th, 1896, at Lomas de Zamora, first at the Civil Registry. and afterwards by the Rev. Dr. Drees, at the bride's residence, Alexander C. Mitchel, of Rosario de Santa Fé, son of the Rev. David Mitchel, M. A., of Buncrana, Ireland, to Alice Blinkhorn, second daughter of Robert Edgar, of Lomas de Zamora.

DEATHS.

On Jan. 4th, at the British Hospital, Charles Pluck, aged 40 years.

On December 25th, at Mercedes, Cora Ruth, infant child of Gerald Dillon, aged 7 months.

On the 7th inst. at Salto, Edward Casey aged 72 years.

On January 10th, at the British Hospital, Kenneth McKenzie, aged 39 years.

On January 14th, at Calle Rincon 1041, Ralph Brocksopp, aged 50.

On the 15th January, at Las Heras, Dr. William John Reynolds, eldest son of Professor Reynolds, of this city, aged 27 years.

VICTORIA CONVALESENT HOME
SUNNY-SIDE, NEAR
LAVALLOL,
F. C. del SUD.

Hon. Medical Officers:—
Dr. G. Mackern, 824 Calle Florida.
Dr. J. Dodds, Lomas de Zamora.
Superintendent—Mr. Carson.

Patients are received at all times and specially on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, when the carriage of the Home meets the train at Lomas Station which leaves Plaza Constitucion at 12.30 p.m., so as to convey them and their luggage to the Home.

Private patients pay $4.00 per day; ordinary patients $2 per day.

Recommendations for free orders can be obtained from any member of Committee, but applicants must prove that they have no means wherewith to meet the ordinary charges of the Home.

To obtain the orders for admission recommendation must taken to the Hon. Medical Officer.

Visitors are allowed to see their friends on Wednesdays and Sundays from 1 to 5 p.m. and for their convenience a Brake belonging to the Institution will on every Sunday afternoon be waiting the arrival of the 2.18 train at Lomas (leaving Plaza at 1.45,) and take them to the Home and back free of charge.

Subscriptions and donations in aid of the funds of the Home will be tankfully received by the Honorary Treasurer.

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365 Reconquista.
R. A. THURBURN, Hon Treasurer
London and River Plate Bank,
F. H. CHEVALLIER BOUTELL, (Hon. Sec:)
423 Rivadavia.

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Highland Chief
Capt. Greig
Jan. 30th
Highland Mary
Capt. Fraser
Feb. 8th.

For London
Ovingdan Grange
Capt. W. A. Williams
Jan. 25th
Florence
Capt. Phipps
Jan. 31st
Urmston Grange
Capt. C. S. Crichton
Feb. 10th

These steamers have good accommodation for a limited number of passengers.
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Steamers calling at La Plata to coal only with Cory Bros & Co., Ltd., are free of entry and wharf dues.
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Departures from BUENOS AYRES, RIO JANEIRO and NEW YORK.
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J. W. TAYLOR Bews Jan. 18
Loading in Dock
ANTWERP
ETHELAIDA Newton Jan. 20
Loading in Dock
LIVERPOOL
NEWTON Ferguson Jan. 20
Loading in Dock
ANTWERP
WHETSTONE Saville Jan. 25
Loading in Dock
HAVRE
RHIO Husband Jan. 25
Loading in Dock.
LIVERPOOL
HEADLANDS Helman Jan. 30
Loading in Dock
DUNKIRK
HORACE Davies Jan. 31
Loading in Dock.
Cargo and passengers for New York will connect with the New York steamers from Rio.
These steamers have good accommodation for a limited number of passengers at moderate rates.
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Calle 25 de Mayo 149.

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Sails for New York on January 10th
AND THE
S.S. LEIBNITZ
On the 10th of February.
Having splendid accommodation for 1st and 3rd class passengers.
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OF STEAMERS
The undermentioned first class powerful steamers will sail on or about the dates named:—
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S.S. FREMONA, 19th Jany.
Captain J. A. Tait
S.S. GERONA, 23rd Jany.
Captain C. Stooke
S.S. IONA, 31st Jan.
Captain Cumming
S.S. AVLONA, 5th Feb.
Captain Baxter
S.S. HURONA 7th March
Captain Yule
These Vessels have been specially constructed for the conveyance of Live Stock, and are fitted with the most modern system of Mechanical, Ventilation, Electric Light, etc., etc.
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CUYO 372 SAN LORENZO 289
BUENOS AIRES ROSARIO
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FOR ANTWERP
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To be followed by the
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Capt. J. Douglas Spooner
to sail on the
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for Rio, Bahia, Pernambuco, Lisbon, Vigo Cherbourg (France) and Southampton.
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s.s. ETONA to sail about February 5th
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These steamers have good accommodation for a limited number of First Class Passengers.
For all information, rates of freight and passage from New York etc apply to the agents.
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The s.s.
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Will sail on or about
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Will sail on or about
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Each steamer takes cargo and a limited number of passengers for these ports.
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The following new and rapid steamers with splendid saloon accommodations will sail from the Puerto Madero direct
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Capt. Cüppers
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Passengers to Southampton will be landed under all circumstances at DAY TIME
1st class Southampton... $150 gold
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For passages apply to the Agent.
Aug. MARQUARDT.-25 DE MAYO 175

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M. G. & E. T. MULHALL.

The Standard

WEEKLY EDITION

PRICE 10 CENTS

N° 1,766 — BUENOS AIRES, MONDAY, JANUARY 20, 1896 — YEAR XXXV

Special Telegram.

STAND-BY-O'GORMAN
TO
STANDARD.

Montevideo Jan. 19th.

The heat of yesterday was scorching and beat the record of the season. At about 9.30 in the evening a terrific cyclon suddenly burst upon the city carrying away electric, telephone and telegraph wires and posts, also the pavilion of the Patronato Kermesse, iron roofs and skylights. Then came a perfect deluge of rain that flooded and converted some of the streets into navigable streams. The damage done to the line of the Uruguay Telephone Company alone is estimated at $20,000 gold and others will have suffered in like proportion. The roof of the coal deposit of our friend W. D. Evans was hoisted, but it may be calculated that the increase in weight of that combustible from the rain that followed, will amply cover the loss. The ships in the Bay were tossed about like feathers, but fortunately to these nothing more serious occurred than the carrying away of a few awnings and the breaking away of a few boats. It being the last night of Jauca at the Solís, this coliseum was packed from floor to ceiling, and the infantile Comedians were all on the stage when came the tremendous crash, the slamming of doors and windows, the breaking of glass, peals of thunder, lightning and rain. The children began shrieking and running in all directions. This brought everyone in the theatre to their feet, and for a while a fearful panic ensued. The cries of women and shouting of men was painfully imposing; some rushing for the door, others clambering over the seats and into the boxes; but suddenly the orchestra struck up the National air, the children returned to their places, the audience to their seats, on went the play, and what might have been a dreadful calamity was providentially averted.

The decree exonerating the Cibils Dock from all Government taxes for a term of fifteen years has been sanctioned by both Chambers and signed by the President.

The eclipse of the anti-Borda daily, *El Censor*, is likely to be total, as Editor Kubly Arteaga, it is murmured, has no more oil in his lamp.

Collector of Customs Don Enrique Gradin's interpretation of the recent law imposing 2½ per cent. additional duty on all importations, including cattle imported from the Argentina, has caused great alarm and discontent to the saladeristas on the coast of Uruguay, who obtain their supplies chiefly from Corrientes and Entrerios, and have important contracts for the present season, already made. This is certainly a most unjust and absurd imposition, the supply of Cattle here being insufficient and their products all for exportation, upon which another high duty must be paid. Mr. Gradin is making a great mistake, the country cannot afford to crush entirely its only important industry.

(Per Havas Agency.)

United Kingdom

London 18th. (Delayed)—The news is confirmed that Colonel Sir Francis Scott has entered Koomassi without firing a shot. King Prempeh and his chieftains have tendered their submission.

The Health of the troops is reported to be satisfactory.

The announcement of the successful termination of the campaign has been received in England with the greatest rejoicing.

The afternoon papers warmly congratulate Sir Francis Scott on the rapidity and skill with which the operations in Ashantee have been carried through.

France

Paris, 18th. (Delayed)—M. Floquet, the distinguished Statesman and ex-Prime Minister, died to-day. The Chamber of Deputies, as soon as the news was known, brought the sitting to a close as a mark of respect to the memory of the deceased.

Paris, 19th—Ricciotti Garibaldi arrived to-day at Nice on his way to Dijon, whither he goes to take part in the commemoration of the defence of that City against the Germans, by the Garibaldi forces in 1871.

Spain

Madrid, 18th (Delayed)—The Minister of State, Duke of Tetuan has resigned his post in consequence of the retirement of General Martinez Campos from the Governorship of Cuba. The Marquess José de Elduayen has already been installed as his successor. It is said that other Ministers will probably follow the example of the Duke.

Madrid, 19th—The death of General Gamir from yellow fever is announced by telegraph. The General was Governor of Puerto Rico.

General Weyler has been definitely appointed Governor General of Cuba and Commander-in-Chief of the forces in the island, in place of General Martinez Campos.

United States

New York, 19th—A meeting was held to-day by 3000 workmen out of employment in the City of Rienzi, State of Mississippi, which proved so tumultuous that the police had to interfer and make a number of arrests.

Portugal

Lisbon, 19th—The troops composing the expedition to quell the rebellion in Goa, returned here to-day and were accorded an enthusiastic welcome.

Morocco.

Tangiers, 19th—Cholera is spreading throughout the country. During the last few days 90 deaths from the epidemic have been registered.

Greece.

Athens, 10th—The cold now being experienced is the greatest ever known in the Kingdom. Heavy falls of snow ocurred throughout the country both yesterday and to-day.

Italy

Rome, 19th—According to despatches received from Africa, the Negus Menelik has broken up the camp at Dolo and marched southwards.

The latest news from Makallé is to the effect that the situation remains unchanged. Both sides have ceased firing and the Negus Menelik has sent a fresh flag of truce to treat for peace.

The Count of Turin, brother of the Duke of Aosta was thrown to-day from his horse and discolated his shoulder, however, no serious results are anticipated from the accident.

Germany

Berlin, 18th (Delayed)—The fetes to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the proclamation of the German Empire have passed off with the most extraordinary brilliancy, and without a single incident of a disagreeable nature. The popular enthusiasm displayed was remarkable in its intensity, many thousands of persons coming to the capital to take part in the festivities.

The troops and the garrison were reviewed by the Emperor, who congratulated them on their fine appearance and discipline. The soldiers were repeatedly cheered by the crowds present, amongst whom were the principal personages of the capital.

After the review the Emperor, in the presence of the Princes and high authorities of the Empire, delivered a message, in which he recounted in enthusiastic terms the colossal works accomplished by the Empire during the past quarter of a century, and asserted that the present strength of the army was the most potent factor for the preservation of the peace of the world. The words of the Emperor were greeted by storms of applause.

Berlin, 19th—The fetes continued all last evening with untiring animation. Both the popular balls and that given in the Imperial Palace were of the most brilliant description. In commemoration of the anniversary the Emperor signed a decree granting pardon to a large number of persons imprisoned for military press or civil delinquencies. This clemency on the part of the Sovereign has created an excellent impression.

At the State banquet given last night in the Castle, the Emperor William delivered a speech, in which he said that the Government would use every effort to defend German citizens in whatever part of the world they might find themselves.

All the papers eulogize the action of the Emperor, and comment with satisfaction on the pacific tone revealed in his speech delivered after the review.

Prince Bismarck, as had been feared, was prevented by the precarious state of his health from coming to the Capital to take part in the fetes. The Emperor, however, sent him an autograph letter to Friedrichsruhe, conceived in very affectionate terms and fully recognizing the immense services rendered by the Iron-Chancellor to the Empire. The aged statesman is reported to have been deeply affected when reading this flattering epistle.

Review of the Week.

The week just closed was an anxious, busy one, and spite of the alarms about war in Europe, war in Chile, war in Venezuela, war in Transvaal, and war in Ashantee, the gold market broke away and prices tumbled much more than people expected. The dissolution of Congress was, of course, the chief event of the week; it came so suddenly upon us all that no one as yet has had time to draw up a schedule of the bills passed during the session, but it is presumed that the Government, or the clerk, or the Senate will publish the list, as so much of the session was occupied in secret sittings few have a very distinct idea of what bills were passed and what were not. Perhaps the most important measures were:—

1—Conclusion of port works.
2—Settlement of Railway Guarantee.
3—Purchase of ironclads.
4—New National Guard Bill.
5—Neuquen Railway.
6—Copper and nickel coins.

Of course, there are some few other measures, such as the Custom House law, the Budget, etc., but the salient labours of the expired session were the railway to Neuquen, the Port Works and the Guarantee Railway Bills. These three measures are calculated to push the country ahead and reestablish its credit, and already we are beginning to feel their beneficial effects.

One way or the other, people begin to observe a very great improvement in the general administration of affairs in the country, and in spite of the war cloud about Chile there is far greater confidence in the country and in its Government than we have known for the last ten years and, as our colleague *La Prensa*, very truthfully remarked during the week the only check that the country experiences now is the apprehension of war with Chile, and the very great expenditure in war material which that apprehension necessitates.

Spite of all that was said to the contrary, Dr. Guerrero has taken office as Minister of Foreign Affairs in Chili, and this has tended to increase public confidence in the prudence of the Chilian Government, as many were of opinion that there was far too much of the bellicose element in the Chilian Cabinet to mean much good. It was rumoured during the week that General Korner, commander-in-chief in Chili, had sent in his resignation, owing to the Chilian Government having very properly refused to mobilize an army of twenty-five thousand men. His retirement from Chile is, we consider, a mere question of time.

Dr. Quirno Costa, the Argentine Minister to Chile, and special boundary commissioner, left during the week: he takes with him important dispatches. Mr. Kennedy, British Minister to Chile, with Mr. and Mrs. Thursby and a large party of friends, also crossed the Andes during the week; and we notice that the passenger traffic between here and Chile has, of late, immensely increased.

In one point of view, last week has proved most important in River Plate history, and, strange to say, it is the very point which moves the world to-day—Gold Discovery. Two solid gold bars from some new gold mines in Neuquen, stamped by the Mint, weighed by Mr. Thurburn, the manager of the London and River Plate Bank, and placed on the counters of his Bank, give auriferous flavour to the week's retrospect. These bars are regarded by many as the beginning of a new departure in the River Plate. They are the emblems alike of wealth as of discord.

The world's difficulties to-day are all hinged on gold discoveries.

The Venezuelan difficulty i. e. Gold Discoveries.

The Ashantee war i. e. Gold Discoveries.

The Transvaal row Do.

The Jameson invasion Do.

The Abyssinian conquest Do.

The Chilian Argentine question Do.

And by far the most prominent figures in last week's picture are our two friends, Mr. Thurburn in his bank, with his two gold bars from Neuquen, and Mr. Barrow, the manager of the Buenos Aires Great Southern Railway, with his coat off, and spade in hand, turning the first sod of his strawberry railway, to the Neuquen gold mines.

SPORT.

CRICKET.

SAN MARTINEROS *v.* FLORES RAMBLERS.

The following is the result of the above match, played at Flores yesterday:—

Flores Ramblers — *1st inn.*

C. Jones c Smith b Breckon	20
S. Gibson b Davis	1
J. Minton b Davis	5
F. W Gardom c Breckon b Davis	6
C. M. Belton c Smith b Breckon	11
A Campbell b Mann	6
J. Holton b Mann	10
J. W. Cross not out	17
A. Jones b Mann	0
P. Adams b Davis	10
H. L. Baugh b Davis	0
Extras	1
Total	87

San Martineros — *1st inn.*

J. Boyd ct. Minton, b Gibson	0
A. Smith b ditto	0
P. Davis b Minton	5
D. Mann b Gibson	7
Breckon c Gardom b Gibson	0
H. Dawson c Jones b Gibson	2
F. Grimsditch not out	7
C. Smith c Gardom, b Minton	1
E. S. Rugeroni b Minton	1
J. Gardom b Gibson	1
E. Boyne c Gardom, b Gibson	0
Extras	1
Total	25

San Martineros. — *2nd inn.*

F. Grimsditch c Campbell, b Belton	7
E. S. Rugeroni l-b-w, b Belton	8
H. Dawson c Minton, b Belton	0
P. Davis b Gibson	5
D. L. Mann not out	6
Total for 4 wickets	26

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

San Martineros 1st inn.

	o.	m.	r.	w.
Belton	6	3	6	3
Gardom	5	2	12	0
Minton	2	0	2	0
Gibson	3	1	6	1

2nd Inning.

	o.	m.	r.	w.
Gibson	9	3	15	7
Minton	8	3	9	3

Flores Ramblers 1st inn.

	o.	m.	r.	w.
Mann	18	3	44	3
Breckon	10	1	21	2
Davis	13	1	21	5

LOMAS A.C. *v.* RETIRO A.C.

Played at Retiro yesterday, resulting in a most decisive victory for the first named.

A. Anderson and Bridger first represented the visitors but were soon disposed of, but with J. O. Anderson and Halstead together matters assumed a very different aspect, the score amounting rapidly, and it was not until 56 was registered that the last named had to leave. Gonsalves then joined Anderson and the hitting continued, the bowling being treated with scant courtesy, and the ball continually travelling to all parts of the ground. At 86 J. O. Anderson left, H. B. Anderson taking his place. By this time the Retiro bowling was thoroughly done for, and fours came in quick succession, Anderson especially hitting very hard, and although some of the strokes were decidedly uppish, yet he gave no chance until he had made 58. Jacobs assisted him very considerably, and when he left the score was 191, the last pair putting on 53 runs. The innings was eventually declared closed at 225.

The efforts of the Retiro team require very little description, as, with the exception of B. B. Syer, nobody could make any stay, and the end of the innings was a procession to and from the wickets.

The excellent lunch and refreshments were supplied by the Criterion.

Lomas A.C. — *1st inn.*

A. Anderson ct H. Smith b E. Smith	3
P. L. G. Bridger b E Smith	9
J. O. Anderson ct Reeves b Brown	48
R. L. Halstead b Reeves	14
G. Gonsalves b Reeves	29
H. B. Anderson St. Syer b E. Smith	61
F. H. Jacobs ct and b Brown	21
C. R. Tupholme b Brown	3
G. M. Comber run out	4
G. Byard not out	8
D. Gibson not out	11
Extras	14
Innings declared closed.	
Total	225

Retiro A. C. — *1st inn.*

R. W. Rudd b J. O. Anderson	5
B.B. Syer ct. J. O. Anderson, b Tupholme	17
E. Smith b J. O. Anderson	2
J. A. Smith b Tupholme	9
W. Brown ct. H. B. Anderson b J. O. Anderson	4
A. Venn b Tupholme	9
H. Nicholson b Tupholme	0
F. J. Reeves b J. O. Anderson	0
J. Timmis ct. Gibson, b Tupholme	6
H. Lucas not out	0
E. O'Sullivan b Tupholme	0
Extras	3
Total	55

Retiro A. C. — *2nd inn.*

R. W. Rudd ct. Jacobs b Bridger	0
B. B. Syer st. Gonzalves b H. B. Anderson	25
E. Smith b Bridger	0
J. A. Smith st Gonzalves, b H. B. Anderson	1
W. Brown b Bridger	10
F. S. Reeves b Bridger	0
H. Lucas not out	5
Extras	3
Total	44

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

Lomas.

	o.	m.	r.	w.
W. Brown	18	1	60	3
E. Smith	17	5	36	2
R. W. Rudd	6	1	24	0
F. J. Reeves	11	3	29	2
J. A. Smith	2	0	8	0
H. Nicholson	5	0	12	0
E. O'Sullivan	2	0	7	0
H. Lucas	7	0	34	0

Brown bowled one wide.

Retiro 1st innings.

	o.	m.	r.	w.
C. R. Tupholme	14	7	23	6
J. O. Anderson	13	3	29	4

2nd innings.

	o.	m.	r.	w.
P. L. G. Bridger	10	3	19	4
H. B. Anderson	9	4	22	2

EDITOR'S TABLE.

The present participle of the verbs to broil, to simmer and to stew exactly describe the temperature yesterday. The storm of Saturday night, instead of cooling the air, heated it, as summer storms in this climate so often do. It was a lazy day in town and suburbs; nobody cared to move about, and everybody, or nearly everybody, appeared to be sighing because his purse was not capacious enough to enable him to hear what the wild waves were saying at Mar del Plata and Necochea, instead of sweltering in town. The Lawn Tennis and Cricket and tea meetings went off nicely. See another column.

The strike of the disciples of the Black Art in Montevideo has resulted in the suspension of the *Censor* for a few days, but the craft engaged on the other papers have not joined it, and very sensibly refuse to throw out the dirty water before they have got hold of the clean to replace it. The strike in the Bay is fizzling, and the few men who still stick to it are becoming more violent in their language, as they begin to realize that the game is nearly "up."

In response to our query the other day as to what had become of the New Australia Colony in Paraguay, a kind correspondent of the Society of Friends, who wear, or used to wear, broadbrim hats, has favoured us with the following:—

"Respected STANDARD,

"During the last three months 10 families and about as many single men have left the settlement, something like one fifth of the total population of the colony.

"At least six more families are preparing to get away at the first opportunity.

thine,
Philo."

The old story! The Portugal leaves to-day for Bordeaux, the Duchessa di Genova for the Superb city, and the Wittekind for Hamburg on Wednesday, the R.M.S. Thames for Southampton on Thursday. Too many mail steamers in one week. We back the Genoese Duchess to beat the lot in the run to Europe.

The captain of the French steamer Hessia has been fined $500, and packet privileges have been withdrawn from the steamer, for the scandalous treatment of the 630 emigrants from Italy she has brought out. They were all half starved, and their sleeping accommodation was unfit for decent pigs.

One of our correspondents writes as follows in regard to the working of the old Platense line of steamers under the new Mihanovich administration: "I came down to the Mount on the Venus yesterday, her first trip from Buenos Aires under the Mihanovich dynasty, which succeeds the late Platense. The Captain, Vucassovich, is still the same, his broken leg being quite mended. He was laid up with it less than two months and a half, which show that these old sea-dogs have lots of stamina. Accompanied by his charming wife and seated in his commodious cabin, he received his travelling friends more as if they were guests than what are called in the East "damphule passenger sahibs". The gallant Captain had quite the air of an Admiral of the fleet, which is perhaps due to his life-long friendship with Mr. Mihanovich, to whom he is now so closely related by the marriage of his daughter to the son of Mihanovich that it is difficult to tell vich is vich. At the table he was surrounded by people of half a dozen nationalities, and talked to each in his own language. The personnel of the Venus is largely the same as during the Platense regime, with one important exception. There is a new cook, a French 'chef', and the cuisine gains by the change. The dinner was excellent and the Menu was written in French. It is perhaps a senseless caprice, but I always enjoy more a dinner when the Menu is written in French than in any other language. Having lived long in Spain, a menu written in Spanish always brings to my nostrils an odor of rancid oil and garlic. A considerable reduction has been made in the prices of wines, etc., but the new Company would do well to continue the Platense custom of having a tariff set up in a conspicuous place in the saloon."

Bolivia cannot be a pleasant place for Argentine diplomatists just now. Dr. Dardo Rocha is on his way back, and will be here before the end of the week. His Secretary of Legation, Mr. Blancas, is also disgusted with his post, and intends to throw it up.

On its way to this city on Saturday night the cyclone ripped up that interesting spot 25 de Mayo, sent all the roofs flying towards the Transvaal Republic, tore up the trees in scores, and played old Harry all round. Here in the city the "blow" was the stiffest for years. Telegraphic communication with both Europe and the Interior was stopped. Several of our subscribers had narrow escapes of swallowing a purgative dose of lightning, through their stupidity in telephoning to their friends while the fandango of thunder, lightning and rain was going on. Great anxiety was felt in fashionable circles for the numerous families who left in the 8 p.m. train for Mar del Plata and went right into the teeth of the tornado. They arrived safely, however. In that gay and festive place of amusement, the Casino, the spectators got a terrific fright, as a flash of lightning, accompanied by a roar of thunder like a million of lions, put out the electric light. The Monks of the Screw who were tippling in the Beer Conven had a similar experience.

The religious fiesta at San Martin yesterday was a great success. The whole population turned out to greet Archbishop Castellanos, and the church was too small to hold the pious congregation at High Mass and the ceremony of confirming a host of little children. The sports in the afternoon and the wind-up ball were a great success.

The *Prensa* published yesterday three portraits: that of the late Monsieur Floquet, who somewhat resembles our great defunct countryman, Lord Palmerston, and those of Generals Polavieja and Weyler, the new men in Cuba. The latter looks more like a religious London bank manager than a soldier, so far as his face is concerned, but there is ability and stern determination in it, and the prodigious number of medals on his breast speak for his heroism in the tented field.

It may not be generally known outside Italian circles here that Count Antonelli, the Italian Minister here, was the first Italian Envoy to Abyssinia, and the founder of the Italian policy there. He was in Abyssinia in 1884, when the Egyptians and the English were fighting their useless battles at El Teb and Tamai.

The mails from Europe by the R. M. S. Thames were delivered yesterday. They are to 28th ult., and the papers are full of news for old and young, Conservatives, Liberals and Radicals.

Here is a capital summary of the Venezuelan question by the *Examiner* of San Francisco:—"There will be no Anglo-American war over the Venezuela dispute. As in all other instances of British aggresion in this hemisphere, the sequence of events will be this:—1. Our sturdy reaffirmation of the Monroe doctrine. 2. Marked inattention of Great Britain to doctrine and reaffirmation. 3. Retaliatory inattention on our part to the inattention of Great Britain. 4. Peace with honour, paid for by Venezuela."

ARRIVALS.

Per steamer Thames, from Southampton December 27th, arrived in port yesterday:—

For Buenos Ayres—Mr. C. J. Rilton, Mr. W. F. Walker, Mr. Charles Roepell, Mr. and Mrs Pinnel, Mr. Percy Stanforth, Mr. A. A. Conroy, Mr. T. P. Mathieson.

Mr. Enrique Colomer, Dr. S. Sonnenfeld, Mr. David Feimberg, Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Mr. R. T. Scott, Mrs. Fanny Grimberg, His Excy. D. Xavier Vial Solar, (Chilian Minister) wife and servant, Mr. Lino R. Aeaga and wife, Alex. Seelig, Mrs. Maria Quiroga, Mr. G. Malleson, Mr. Sebastino Azevedo, Mrs. D. P. de Flores, 4 children and servant.

For Rosario—Mr. C. Mallet, Mr. and Mrs. H. Greene, Misses F. Dickinson and E. B. Dickinson, nurse and man-servant, Mrs. Parry and child.

For Montevideo—Mr. Dante Santini.

PASSENGERS BOOKED.

Per steamer Nile, from Southampton January 7th:—

For Buenos Ayres—Mrs. MacCullem, children and nurse, Mrs. Wilson Lamb, Surgeon-Lieut. Colonel MacDonnell, M.D., F.R.C.S., Dr. and Mrs. J. F. H. Bothell and child, Mr. J. A. Bishop.

For Rosario—Mr. and Mrs. Barnett, Col. Healey.

Per steamer Clyde, to leave Southampton January 24th:—

For Buenos Ayres—General L. Mansilla and servant.

For Rosario—Mr. David Martin.

"THE CRITERION"
552—Piedad—562
BREAKFAST TO-DAY

Onion soup.
Vegetable

Boiled corbine au beurre fondu.
Skate and black butter.
Whitebait.

Carne con cuero, ensalada de papas.
Lamb's head parsely sauce.
Tripes and onions.
Minced turkey poached egg.
Curried mutton and rice.
Steak and kidney pie
Beefsteak maitre d'hotel French beans.
Porridge and cream.

MAILS.

20th.

Portugal for Brazil and Europe. Mails close at 1 p.m.

22nd

Duchessa di Genova for Brazil, Canarias and Europe. Mails close at 1 p.m.

Wittekind for Europe. Mails close at 12 noon.

23rd.

Thames for Brazil and Europe. Mails close at 1 p.m.

30th.

Orellana for Brazil and Europe. Mails close at 3 p.m.

ALFRED BELL & Co.
Marine and General Engineers,
Tools and Stores, Oils and Packing.
Special attention to Ocean steamers
Town Office: 387 Reconquista. Telephonico Union 210
Works: 1195 Pedro Mendoza (Boca telephonic Union 5388.

Letters lying at this Office.

A B

G. Alter, Burrows, Mrs, Bayliss, Brooks, Brown, J. Brown, R. Brooks, Morgan, Bowen, Basile, Beggs, Miss R. Byren, C. E. Burrow, J. Brightmore, Miss M. Barrow, Emilio Bazani, Anderson, Burke, C. Burist, Alcock, Barry, G. B. Anderson, J. Brown, M. Barker, Maggie Barrett, Brabo, C. Barker, Sam. Birch, Juan Balehelu, Bicknel, A. Bailes, Louisa Allen, Burges, C. Bruel, W. Browne, Blanco, Burney M. Bowen.

C D

Julia Daly, Julia Duffy, Mary Devereux, Dalmer, Duggan, Doliach, Davis, Dawson, L. Deveur, Dalton, Didcott, Dowdale, Mary Duffy, M. Dillon, Celestino Cesar, Ellen Conery, Jessie Clark, Corballes, S. Capsey, Callaghan, Dr. Corbin, Ellen Coghlan, Mary Carmody, Candy, Compton, Castelloe, Casey, Ana Collins, Chancey Cleghorn, Cancela, Thomas Cassidy.

E F

Delia Elliot, Farrell, Finsland, Faulkes, Ford, E. Hoyd, Friderichsen, P. Ford, Erni, W. Ford, Mrs. Filmour, Charles Falck, J. Fusseek, Furness, Fassell, Furesan.

G H

Gibbin, Hagin, Harris, Hotchkiss, S. Hamilton, Hulinghan, Golding, Lizzie von Hay, F. Gerards, Hallen, Stuart Gresson, F. Gahan, Holmes, Gilbert G. Gibbs, Hill, Mackney, Harkney, Hawkins, Hatton, Glaston Ellen Hevey, Miss Annie Hayes, Miss Marianne Hayden.

I J

Jens Jorgensen, Jerrit, Jaspar Jeffers, Imperiali, C. Johnston.

K L

John Lean, Keogh, Lobley, Kelly, Kean, Kilrigh, Kennedy, Lausson, Kernor, D. Lewis, Mine Knox, F. E. Less, Kilmartin, Klein, Luudrest, Lery Labor, Keating, Kenley, H. Legg Littlechild.

M N O

McGay, Macnara, McAleer, Miss Julia McCormack McDonald, Moliroux, Maddison, Mott, Mackinesley, Muller, Morton, Mack, O'Brien, O'Neill, Maxwell, Maidemont, Maclay, Matthieus, McAdden, Macbeth, Obendorfer, Milner, Mullen, McCarthy, Molina, Nielson, McLean, Nally, Mackin, Moffat, Mulleady, McKeon, Rev. E. O'Reilly, Miss B. O'She aBridget, McDonagh.

P Q R

Paltenghi, Rhoades, R Pardal, Powell, F. Robb, Pennington, Quinlan, Rogers, Peckitt Reynolds, Ponsonby, Rosbery, James Rafferty, Ravisbrook, Luisa Rock, Pringle, Quimi, Patterson, Pearce, Qungley Richards, P. Day, Paull, Rileigh, Palmer, Passeggi, Rott, Preston, Pattinson, John Reid.

S T U

Elice Scallan, Stephenson, Sweetman, Mrs. Steel, Taylor, Jose Tarkin, Shaw Shertzer, Thomas Schmidgall, W. Smith, Stephens, S. Smiler, Stapleton, L. Thomson, Seftors, E. Smith, Tallow, E. Schwart, Sayres, Skotte, Sambogniah, Sagger, Arthur Schmidt.

V W X Y

Mr. William, C. Walshe, C. E. Williams, G. Winter, Helen White, Miss Warick, F. Woolmer, Mrs. Young, Watts.

PAPERS LYING AT THIS OFFICE.

Bidell, J. Astely, Newbound C. Alcock Mrs. R. Wallace, A. Higgins Miss Treving Patrick Glendon, S. Donohoe, Mr. Hacfield, Mr. H. Howers, Miss Mugriflge, Mr A Makepeace, John O'Conner, Julia Mahon W. Lindsay, W. Keenor, J. H. Koen, A, Lewis, G. B. Stephenson, H. Packer, A. Peckett, H. Symons, Wailis, W. Upton J. Williama, H. Wright, Mr Janvan Soest, Sra, Hallard, Mrs Steel Mr. Whittingston, J. G. Westborn, Hil, R. Wallace, Miss C. Cunningham.

Missing Friends.

Information is desired at the British Consulate of the death or whereabouts of the following persons:

Frederick Everill, and wife, believed to have gone to Parana.

William Peterson, boilermaker, has not been heard of for three years

John Mahoney, his sister Maria anxious for address.

Henry Ball, once employed with Messrs. Johnston & Co.

John Morris, last heard of twenty years ago, at Gualeguaychú.

B. Aires, Sept. 27th, 1895.

Ronald Bridgett,
H. B. M. Consul.

365 Reconquista

Week's Telegrams.

United Kingdom.

London, 13th—Lord Salisbury has made the following proposal. That some neutral Power should appoint a commission to trace out the Venezuelan boundary line, and that a third Power be final arbitrer in case of any difficulty. This proposal of Lord Salisbury's has created a very good impression in America, and is considered to be a good proof that England wants to settle the difficulty in a friendly manner.

The Anglo German crisis in considered at an end. Count Hatzfelt the German Ambassador has left for Brighton.

Private telegrams from the Cape of Good Hope state that the Boers lost 150 men in the fight with the British invaders and that the the latter only surrendered when their ammunition gave out. The Boers speak very highly of the courage and daring displayed by Major Sir John Willoughby and Captain Hamilton. It is asserted that a good number of arms and ammunition are held by the Nitlanders in Johannesburg, but of the 40 maxim guns held by them only 6 have been recovered.

Some papers have hinted at the idea of acknowledging the independence of Transvaal so long as the Nitlanders get the privileges they ask for.

England's cession of Zeila to the Italians is again spoken of. The Italian Ambassador held a long interview with Lord Salisbury this morning on the subject.

It is said that a free pardon in the Queen's name will shortly be extended to all the political prisoners in Ireland.

A categorical denial has been given to the report that England had decided to permit the disembarcation of Italian troops at Zeilah.

London, 14th—The excitement in Ireland has calmed down in view of promises made by Government to effect a reconciliation of parties,

Lord Salisbury is holding continual interviews with the French and Russian Ambassadors, and it is believed that a Triple Alliance will be the result of these quiet interviews; the Press is confident that this will be the final outcome.

The news that Mr. Chamberlain promised the North American Government to protect United States citizens in Transvaal has created an excellent impression in New York. This decision will go a long way towards making England friendly with the United States agrin.

The winter is proving terribly severe in Scotland especially in Edinburgh and its environs. Snow has been falling without cessation since last Thursday, and communication is completely stopped in many places.

The Admiralty has not relaxed its haste to arm several vessels lying in different ports of the United Kingdom.

It has leaked out that the Board of the Niger Company established here, sent a few days ago 200 tons of gun-powder to Akassa their port on the Niger. This step has given rise to much adverse criticism as it is feared that the powder may have be sent out to be sold to native African tribes.

At a political meeting held to-day in Glasgow, Lord Balfour of Burleigh, the Secretary of State for Scotland, declared that in case of necessity every British subject without distinction of politics would be found ready to defend his country from foreign attack.

A telegram from Bombay announces the massacre by natives, of a hundred Portuguese in the Sattary defile in the Goa settlement.

It is believed that a settlemement is imminent between England and France, of the Upper Mekong question on the Siamese frontier.

London, 15th—The Abyssinian forces have made six attacks against Makalle since the 11th of this month. It is asserted that King Menelik's troops are very demoralized.

The Anglo-Venezuelan Question is on a fair way towards being arranged in a friendly manner. The Conservative press is rejoicing over the fact that no conflicts have arisen out of the question.

Sir Augustus Hemming, the new Governor of British Guiana, will leave England next month. He has received ample powers to finish the Anglo-Venezuelan Question in a satisfactory way for both countries. Sir Augustus Hemming's appointment has created great satisfaction in political circles, as the new Governor's experience of diplomatic questions is very vast.

It is asserted that England has not offered Venezuela any money as a recompense for accepting the Schomburg boundary line.

A telegram from Cape Town states that Sir Cecil Rhodes leaves to-day for England.

Jameson and his officers are yet prisoners in Pretoria.

Mr. Chamberlain has advised President Kruger that the detention of the prisoners might seriously hamper business in the Rand.

The Admiralty has ordered the construction of 10 fast cruisers. Government will pay a certain premium for each vessel finished before the time stipulated in the contracts.

The *Daily Telegraph* states that Russia has warned Italy that she is exposing herself to trouble, and that Russia will side with King Menelik if Italy continues the war in Abyssinia.

Telegrams from Italy state that Gen. Baratieri's advance guard of troops in Africa has arrived at Marmideta. General Arimondi has established a telegraph line between Adigrat and Adagamus.

Communication with Makalle is difficult.

Sir Cecil Rhodes in obedience to a summons from the Minister for the Colonies left Cape Town to-day for England.

The latest news from the Transvaal is to the effect that President Krüger and Sir A. Robinson have made an agreement, one of the terms of which is that Dr. Jameson and the officers made prisoner at Johannesburg are to be handed over to the British Government to be sent to England for trial.

London, 16th—There was a rumour current yesterday that the payment of the interest on Spain's Foreign Debt would be suspended, but the news was denied. Even so, several financial papers continue publishing news which creates a fall in Spanish Bonds.

At a political meeting which took place in Manchester, Mr. A. Balfour declared that Great Britain had not the slightest intention of seizing territory in South America. Neither had England any intention of meddling in South American politics. Mr. Balfour also stated that he never did believe in the possibility of a war between England and the United States. Both countries are in a position to arrange pending questions in a satisfactory way. Mr. Balfour concluded by expressing his firm conviction that the Anglo-Venezuelan Question would be settled in a friendly way. The speaker was loudly cheered by his listeners.

Sir Philip Currie, the British Ambassador at Constantinople, has presented the Sultan with an autograph letter from Queen Victoria asking him to put an end to the Armenian Massacres and establish order in his kingdom. Christians are being massacred in Armenia and in the provinces of Asia Minor. A general insurrection is feared and this will bring on the intervention of England and Russia. It is estimated that 20,000 people have been butchered in cold blood.

A new Company is being formed in Canada to export fresh frozen meat to Europe and the West Indies on a large scale.

The Anglo-French convention on the Mekong question was signed to-day. By the new arrangement France is granted a free hand on the left bank of the river.

The autograph letter indited by the Queen to the Sultan respecting the massacres of Christians in Anatolia, Asia Minor, is exciting great attention. In the letter Her Majesty expressed the hope that the Turkish Government would quickly restore order in those regions. The Sultan's reply is looked forward to with great interest.

London, 17th—It is rumoured that the flying squadron will sail for the Bermuda Islands. It is also asserted that the Admiral in command has received orders with regard to the Anglo-Venezuelan Question.

Fresh rumours about Spain's credit are on the tapis. These rumours cause a fall in the quotations of Spanish Bonds.

The *Times* publishes an article in today's issue stating that it is probable that the garrison of Makallé will capitulate.

London, 18th—The British forces under General Scott have entered Coomassie, the capital of Ashantee, without meeting any resistance. King Prempeh is taking refuge 30 miles from the capital, and has again made offers for peace.

The strike of Glasgow and Belfast workmen has come to an end. The strikers held a meeting and resolved to return to work on Tuesday next.

The British Government has resolved to fortify Dover as soon as possible. A committee of naval engineers will be appointed to survey the port and draw up the necessary plans for its fortification.

The Abyssinian campaign is followed with the greatest interest by the English people. The principal papers publish long articles praising the bravery of the Italian troops.

The *Times* publishes a telegram from Makalle stating that Menelik is preparing to leave the neighbourhood of Makalle, in view of the heavy losses he sustained in the seven fruitless attacks against the garrison.

France

Paris, 15th.—The rumour of some very important diplomatic event in circulation yesterday, is denied to-day as without the slightest foundation.

The Czarevitch (Grand Duke George) will come here from Nice at the end of this month. His health has slightly improved since he arrived at Nice.

Paris, 16th—M. Charles Floquet, the ex-Premier is seriously ill M. Floquet was born in the Lower Pyranees in 1828, and is Deputy for the Seine Department since 1894.

Prince Ferdinand of Bulgaria arrived here to-day incognito. His sudden and unexpected visit has some important political meaning attached to it.

The miners in St. Etienne coal district are again asking for increased wages, which the companies refuse. Nevertheless, a strike is not anticipated.

The journalist Carle Perriéres was today arrested on the charge of being one of those who levied black-mail on Max Lebaudy.

M. Emile Loubet was this afternoon elected president of the Senate, by 186 votes.

The afternoon papers insist that the signature of the Mekong convention does not imply any general understanding between the two countries.

Paris, 17th—It is firmly believed here that Marshal Campos will resign on account of ill health.... He will probably be suceeded by General Weyler, a very able officer.

The Moselle is reported as rising in a very alarming way at Epinal and it is feared it will overflow and inundate the country. The authorities are taking precautions to forestall any disaster.

Paris, 18th—There is a rumour that M. Hanotaux will shortly return to the Foreign Office, as M. Bertholot is inclined to throw up the post to allow him to resume it.

Germany

Berlin, 13th—Efforts are being made to unite the Conservatives, Conservative Liberals and National Liberals to counterbalance the influence of the Centre Party in the Reichstag.

The Reichstag began this afternoon the consideration of the margarine-Bill framed to restrict the sale of that article which is being palmed off by many ealers as genuine butter. The probability is that the Bill will be passed.

Berlin, 14th—The German Socialists will shortly issue a manifesto to their colleagues, advising them what to do in view of the measures of suppression taken by the Government.

There is a rumour of difference of opinion in the Prussian Cabinet, and a probable change in the holders of some of the portfolios.

The *Norddeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung* denies to-day in energetic language that Germany has made excuses to the British Government respecting the Transvaal question.

Berlin, 15th—The Prussian Landtag was this afternoon re-opened with the usual ceremonies. The Emperor William and all the Ministers were present on the occasion, His Majesty being loudly cheered by the crowds collected in front of the Palace.

The Emperor in his opening speech declared that the finances of the country were slowly improving, but that unhappily the same could not be said of its agricultural prospects, which he admitted were certainly of a gloomy nature.

Berlin, 16th—Government has made a convention with Japan by which she obtains permission to establish a coaling station on Formosa Island for her squadron in those waters. This concession is considered here as another triumph of German diplomacy.

The proposed increase of duty on imported grain was discussed to-day in the Reichstag. Count Kanitz leader of the agrarian party contended that the present rates favoured Argentina and Chile to the prejudice of the National industry. The sub-Secretary for Foreign Affairs Baron Marschall de Bieberstein opposed any increase in duty.

The debate will be continued to-morrow; but the final result it is impossible to foresee. Count Herbert Bismarck took part in to-day's proceedings and warmly supported the Bill. Several of the speeches made were very violent in character.

Berlin, 17th—The police in Dresden have pounced on a gang of forgers of the notes of the Imperial Bank. Their machinery and plates etc. have been seized. Five of the forgers have been arrested, and the others are being tracked.

The debate on the proposed increase of duty on imported grain, continued to-day and excited warm discussion. Several very violent speeches were delivered causing personal animosity between various members.

The leader of the Polish party Herr Ferdinand Radziwill and also Herr Rudolf von Bennigsen spoke long in opposition of the measure which was eventually thrown out by 219 to 97 votes.

Prince Hohenlohe in a speech loudly applauded presented to-day in the Reichstag the Bill dealing with the new Civil Code, destined to crown the consummation of the Empire.

Berlin, 18th—The city has a most gay and festive appearance. The 25th anniversary of the foundation of the Empire is being celebrated in splendid style. Unter den, Linden, Fredrich's Strasse and other principal streets are splendidly decorated. Military bands and cheers for the Emperor are heard everywhere. The Emperor issued a manifesto calling to mind the sacrifices made by the past generation in fighting for the Union of the German Empire. The rest of the manifesto has created a favorable impression. One thing in the manifesto has called for special attention, and this is where reference is made to the necessity of keeping the army and navy at high pitch of perfection, in order to meet any attempt at an attack by the enemy.

The Government has ordered the arrest of the editor of a Socialist paper in Chemnitz (Saxony), for publishing a violent article against Emperor William.

United States

New York, 13th—Telegrams from Cuba state that Maximo Gomez has returned to the Province of Havannah, out manœuvring the Spanish troops. Gomez has 4,000 rebels under him, and had a terrible fight with General Campos near Batabano. Gomez outflanked Campos's positions and compelled his troops to retreat. The losses on both sides were very great.

A telegram from Shanghai states that serious events are feared in Corea. It appears that the Queen of Corea is alive and has managed to escape from the Palace where she was supposed to have been murdered and her reappearance will bring on some trouble.

New York, 14th—Quotations are firmer on the Stock Exchange. Important orders to buy have arrived from London. These were executed at high prices.

The United States press states that the present situation is very favourable to the settlement of the question between England and the United States.

New York, 18th—Telegrams from Seoul state that the Queen of Corea is proved to be dead, but that no further details as regards her end can be obtained.

Telegrams have been received in Washington stating that the Pope has offered to act as arbitrator to obtain a pacific settlement of the Anglo Venezuelan Question, but on the other hand papers of this city publish a despatch from Cardinal Rampolla stating that the Pope simply offered to intercede with the British Government in the Anglo-Venezuelan Question in order to obtain a friendly settlement of the present difficulty.

A meeting of the Autonomist, and Conservative parties was held yesterday in Havannah, and General Campos was present. The Autonomist party's representatives, naturally, expressed their complete satisfaction with the blundering direction of the campaign by General Campos. The Conservatives and Reformers said that Campos was too lenient. Campos referred the matter to the Government in Madrid who at once ordered him to resign and return to Spain, and General Marin to take his place "pro tem". General Weyler has been appointed Commander in Chief in Cuba and sails for Havana to-day. Great hopes are entertained that this energetic soldier will save the Royal cause.

Chile.

Valparaiso, 13th—Twenty pilots have passed a successful examination and have entered the service of the line of steamers running between Lota and Coronel.

Telegrams from Lima state that disorders occurred in Mogueagua. These were brought on by the "gendarmes." The Government has sent reinforcements of troops by the transport Lima.

Valparaiso, 14th—The strike of coachmen in Santiago is still continues. Disorders are feared.

There is some difficulty about the loan for £4,000,000. According to the arrangements made by Congress, the proposals for the loan should be made in Santiago and not in London, some state that Rothschild and other bankers declared that the state of the European market would not allow of such a transaction. Others state that the bankers were offended at the arrangements dictated by the Chilian Congress and therefore refuse to lend the money. It is rumoured that Government will ask for permission to keep open a current account of £200,000 in London whilst the obstacles to the launching of £4.000,000 loan continue.

It is stated that Minister Guerrero will not remain long as Minister of Foreign Affairs as the arrangement he made with the Argentine Government for the settlement of the Boundary Question has been completely ignored by the Chilian Government!!

The Babinet Ministers will not pass their vacation in Valparaiso this year.

Valparaiso, 15th—The result of the census of the Republic is not yet known.

The coachmen's strike has come to an end.

Two new infantry regiments will be created; also two artillery regiments.

The exchange market continues the same.

The Chilian Government is going to mobilize an army corps.

Valparaiso, 16th—Minister Guerrero's arrival has considerably changed the political situation, but there is a strong current of public opinion against the attempted new pacific departure, which may shortly lead to important results. Home politics are so bound up with the international question that people expect a quite new turn to be given to the diplomacy of the country while Congress is in recess.

Minister Guerrero takes up his new post this week. All the statements about his resignation are utterly false. Minister Guerrero intended to remain away for a few days more in order to rest and recover from the fatigue of a long journey, but the rumours about his resignation lead him to assume his post sooner than he thought necessary.

The news about Mr. Barros Arana being entertained at a banquet is also false. No such thing has even been mooted.

Government has sent a project to Congress for granting fifty hectares of land in the Provinces of Cautivo and Valdivia to each father of a family, and twenty five hectares to each son over 10 years of age of Chilian parents.

The purchase of the railway to Coquimbo has been sanctioned.

Five hundred sailors are required to man the war vessels being constructed in Europe for the Chilian Navy.

Valparaiso, 18th—The German residents here are celebrating the 25th anniversary of the foundation of the German Empire: all the German merchants and shopmen have closed their doors.

A meeting will be held to petition Congress to pass the law project for organizing the National Guard.

Exchange is quoted at the same rate.

Brazil

Rio Janeiro, 18th—The coffee harvest in the States of Santo Espiritu, Bahia, and San Pablo is a very abundant one this year.

Thirty cases of yellow fever occurred yesterday in the city.

UNITED STATES AND ENGLAND.

THE PANIC IN WALL STREET.

ITS EFFECT ON THE SITUATION.

PRESIDENT'S NEW MESSAGE.

THE FINANCIAL POSITION.

A CALL AT THE AMERICAN EMBASSY.

MORE ENGLISH OPINION.

London, Dec. 21st.

The Senate yeterday approved the House of Representatives' Bill agreeing to an appropriation towards the expenses of the President's proposed Commission on the Anglo-Venezuelan frontier. But it is not this decision which is the feature of this morning's "United States and Great Britain" cablegrams. The panic in Wall-street and the heavy fall in American securities takes precedence of everything else.

EXORBITANT MONEY RATES.

The continued outflow of gold from the United States, and the expectation that between six and eight millions will be withdrawn during the next few weeks, has caused quite a sensation in the New York money market; and borrowers had to pay yesterday exorbitant rates for temporary accommodation. Not for years has there been such a state of excitement and high rates for money ruling. The market was completely disorganized. Call loans were made in the afternoon at 75 per cent, and as much as 80 per cent. was bid in some cases. Considerable sums exchanged hands at from 15 to 20 per cent, and most loans were quoted at 15 per cent. by the banks, The last loan was done at 50. In a word, borrowers who wanted accommodation had to pay anything up to 80 per cent, according to the scarcity of the supply at the instant the necessity was accommodated. The *Daily News* correspondent says:—Gold shippers were unable to obtain enough legal tender notes with which to withdraw gold from the Treasury, and consequently less gold will be shipped to-morrow than was anticipated, only about three million dollars going to Europe.

THE PANIC ON THE EXCHANGE.

The condition of affairs on the Stock Exchange was quite as bad as in the Money Market, and there was a scene of the wildest excitement throughout the day. Large foreign orders to sell were received, and prices simply "slumped". Of coursethese large sales of American securities for foreign account are certain to increase the outflow of gold and the depletion of the Treaaury Reserve. According to the *Daily News* correspondent, "one could not walk the streets to-day and not see the change in men's faces. Merchants and bankers hurried along with anxious, strained countenances, eagerly consulting with one another as to the probable outcome of the present demoralisation. One railway president estimates the total loss which the country would suffer from today's panic at not less than a thousand million dollars or £200,000,000. An eminent financier said that none of those now living would see the full recovery of the country from the consequences of Mr. Cleveland's conduct." Five failures were announced, three of which are reported to be Stock Exchange firms of high standing. When the first failure was proclaimed by the chairmaa of the Stock Exchange there was a momentary lull, then a wilder rush than ever to sell. This was repeated after each failure. Selling continued till noon with slight reactions. Later, the pressure ceased somewhat, but sales were large till the close. There was a slightly firmer tone during the final hour, but this was due to short covering. Net declines reached ten to fifteen points in many cases. The average of decline in international stocks was fully 10 per cent.

THE FALL IN "AMERICANS" IN LONDON.

With regard to the London market, attention has been almost entirely diverted from the political to the financial aspect of the question. It is now clearly perceived that whatever may be the political results of the action of President Cleveland its commercial and financial consequences have been disastrous to the United States. Considerable quantities of both American bonds and shares changed hands, but there were few buyers for home account, and very frequently the price obtained was a matter of negotiation. It was rumoured in the afternoon that the Messrs. Rothschild had decided to withdraw five millions sterling from the United States immediately, which naturally added to the nervous feeling prevalent. It is generally felt that confidence in the United States Government, as well as in American securities, has received a shock from which it will take a long time to recover. It will be a difficult task to restore the confidence of the ordinary investor, which has been so rudely snaken.

THE PRESIDENTS MESSAGE YESTERDAY.

President Cleveland has taken advantage of the panic created by himself in order to press home the question of the need of currency reform. He has sent another Message to Congress, advocating that immediate steps be taken for letting the world at large know that the United States is in a position to meet all her monetary obligations. He says:—"The contigency feared has reached us. The withdrawals of gold and others that appear inevitable threaten such a depletion of the gold reserve as to bring us face to face with the necessity for further action for its protection. The condition is intensified by the prevalence in certain quarters of a sudden and unusual apprehension and timidity in business circles. We are in the midst of another season of perplexity, caused by our dangerous and fatuous financial operations. These may be expeted to recur with certainty as long as there is no amendment of our financial system. If, in this particular instance; our predicament is at all influenced by our recent insistence upon the position we should occupy in our relations to certain questions concerning our foreign policy, this furnishes a signal and impressive warning that the patriotic sentiment of our people is an inadequate substitute for a sound financial policy. There can be no doubt in any thoughtful mind as to the complete solvency of our nation."

The Message gives on to say. "In view of the peculiar situation now confronting us, however, I have ventured to express the earnest hope that Congress, in default of the inauguration of a better system of finance, will not take the recess before it has, by legislative enactment or declarations, done something, not only to remind those that are apprehensive among our people that the resources of the Government and the scrupulous regard for honest dealing afford a sure guarantee of unquestioned safety and soundness, but to reassure the world that with those factors and the patriotism of our citizens the ability and determination of our nation to meet, under any circumstances, every obligation it incurs do not admit of question. I ask at the hands of Congress such prompt aid as alone has power to give to prevent in time of fear and apprehension the sacrifice of the people's interests and the public funds, or the impairment of our public credit by executive action to relieve the dangers of the present emergency."

That something will have to be done is clear, but exactly what steps will be taken it is difficult to foresee.

MR. CLEVELAND'S RECENT PROPOSALS.

It is as well to call to mind, in view of the situation that has arisen, what were the proposals of President Cleveland. These, in a word were to call in and cancel the greenbacks and the new Treasury notes issued under the Sherman Act, amounting to a little under 100 millions sterling, and to do this by the issue of long-dated bonds bearing a low rate of interest, the bonds to be either exchanged directly for the notes or to be sold in Europe for gold, and the gold to be used for redeeming the notes. The effect of the recent policy of the United States Government has been to drive gold out of the country, and has created the fear that if something were not soon done to change the position gold would go to apremium; and the recent development of events has accentuated this view. A measure of a temporary character suggested was the proposal to authorize the Secretary to issue Treasury Bills, or something similar—in other words, to borrow for short periods, at low rates of interest. This is a measure which Congress should, and probably, now that the crisis has become so acute, will accept. But the utmost distrust of the situation prevails in London, owing to the political element which enters into the calculations, it being feared that nothing will be done, in view of the elections next year, that will redound to the credit of the present administration.

MR. CHAUNCEY DEPEW'S NEW TUNE.

Even Mr. Chauncey Depew, who the other day was singing the praises of Cleveland and speculating on the fashion in which the Yankees would overrun Canada, has changed his tune. He is now writing to the *New York World*, the head and front of the opposition to the President, to suggest that the whole difficulty between Washington and London should be referred to the Supreme Court. He says the President's Message has already cost the country 800,000,000 dols, through depreciation of securities at home and abroad. "Yet there has been no voice from the commercial bodies. They seem to be waiting to see whether true patriotism demands such sacrifice as these. If not, there will be a protest.

THE CLOSURE OF CONGRESS.

There is something very remarkable in the closing of Congress, since it was unattended by any of the usual formalities on such occasions. There was no decree of the President closing the session, no speech from the Minister thanking the Senators and Deputies for their abnegation and patriotism in sitting so long after the legal term of the session prescribed by the Constitution. The session seems to have expired in a sort of fainting fit, since it appears that the Deputies had not only not closed their sittings, but were busily employed in discussing some important measures, when the house adjourned for the usual quarter hour of rest, but that quarter of an hour is destined to hold good for four months, as the Deputies have dispersed, and there is not now in the city a sufficient number to form a quorum.

Such an extraordinary termination of the session may be said to somewhat correspond with the character of its labours since, if we never before had such an unusual wind up, so also have we rarely had a parliamentary term so secret and so sterile.

It has been said by some deep thinkers that a country or a nation always has the Government it deserves, and this doctrine, though harsh enough, has been accepted as so true that it has passed into an aphorism.

The collapse, therefore, of Congress and the rather discreditable wind-up of the session caused by this general skedaddle of both Senators and Deputies may, after all, be only what the country deserves, since, if more care were taken by the people in the election of Congress members, possibly a better or superior class of men would constitute our Parliament and the country would be saved from its present humiliation.

In most countries the character of the people determines the character of its Legislature, but in Argentina it is not so; and indeed judging by the debates in the house, and a short and hurried retrospect of the last session, it is very hard to say what the Argentine Congress does represent.

And the conduct of the Deputies in clearing out in such an extraordinary manner does not correspond with any feature that we know of Argentine character.

It is presumed that the Sugar Bounty Bill was the proximate cause of the whole hegira, and that sooner than pass this monstrous Bill the minority resolved to leave the House without a "quorum," and thus postpone the measure until next session. Some allowance also must be made for the Provincial Deputies, who are so far away from their distant homes and so anxious to return before the summer is over.

ANOTHER CHILIAN CLOUD.

The rumoured resignation of Sr. Guerrero of a portfolio which he accepted but never held, is one of those unlooked for political events which must fairly astound Argentine statesmen.

Hardly has a fortnight elapsed since Dr. Guerrero took leave of the Argentine Government, to accept the important post of Minister of Foreign Affairs in his own country. Previous to his nomination as Minister of Foreign Affairs there had been a prolonged political crisis in Chile,

and the President of Chile passed weeks and weeks in ineffectual labours to form a Cabinet. After great delays, mutual concessions and a deal of patching up, a new Chilian Cabinet was formed, the central figure of which was Dr. Guerrero Chilian Minister in Buenos Aires.

This experienced and distinguished Chilian diplomat left this country only the other day, and his departure was, as we then remarked. surrounded by everything that could form a happy augury for his future career. He had passed through the most critical times and moments of surpassing excitement, and by his great prudence, discretion and conciliatory conduct had won for himself both here and in Chile the very highest reputation. Strange, therefore, that, hardly has he crossed the mighty Andes and set foot in his own country than the discordant elements of Chilian trouble should again raise their heads and oust from office the very man whom the Chilians themselves took such superhuman trouble to get into their Cabinet.

We very much fear that the political state of parties in Chile is but imperfectly known on this side of the Andes, and that all the blessed eloquence of Dr. Jara and the Chilian Archbishop Dr. Casanova, and their pious pilgrimage to the Virgin of Lujan, which beyond all question did so much to revive the friendly feeling between the two countries, corresponded in nothing with the real national political sentiment of Chile, whose people need a lesson to bring them to their proper senses.

If the whole population of Chile were counted out to-morrow, there is not one man in that country whose judgment of the Chileno-Argentino question is equal to that of Guerrero. He knows this Republic from top to bottom, its public men, its weaknesses and its strength, its debilities and its forces, its vitality, its resources and its general movement, and Guerrero is of all other men in Chile the best qualified to measure the awful sequence which the rude ignorance of the "Rotos" and the vapid patriotism of the shopkeepers and dealers of Santiago and Valparaiso would secure their unfortunate country, did their party gain headway.

With very guarded suspicion we therefore look on the news of Mr. Guerrero's resignation. He knows well what he is about, and is determined to stand clear of the headlong ruin with which the political errors of his countrymen threaten their native land.

MUTTERINGS AND MURMURINGS.

In that high and polished sphere under tutelary influence of diplomacy, call it the Casa Rosada here or the Moneda in Santiago de Chile, there is a tacit agreement to ignore all the bellicose bluster in the press and an invariable, stereotyped assurance that the relations between the two Governments are of a most cordial nature. Limits' Commissioners may disagree, newspapers may indulge in firebrand articles, panic-mongers may croak, the public may mutter and murmur—but perfect harmony prevails in the high regions where the destinies of the two countries are swayed, where treaties and protocols are signed, and all the turmoil below does not send even a faint echo through the rarified diplomatic ambient. Could there be a more striking contrast—harmony above, discord below.

However, if the temper of a people can be gauged by the many, varied channels that public opinion invariably seeks—say the legislative precincts, though doors be closed—the columns of the Press—the gossip at the festive board of politicians or at the humble mess of the laborer—mutterings and murmurings in the Bolsa, in the cafés, in the streets—if in fact all can smell gunpowder in the air, we may well pause and inquire into this assumed confidence in the governing sphere and into this feverish ferment and visible irritation in the people. The varying phases of the Limits Question, incidentally, passionately or otherwise commented on in the columns of the papers, may, perhaps, be reckoned beyond the scope of the masses, who can place full reliance on the tact and experience of diplomats and ministers; but the public are nettled by the great increase in armaments, the special votes in secret sittings, the evident, feverish activity in army and navy departments, the interminable daily newspaper literature filling columns upon columns with military matters. Add to this the inconvenience of the mobilization of the National Guards, the militarization of all youths of 20 years, quartered with Line Regiments, wrested from their homes and their occupation. Need we wonder at all the murmuring and muttering, the angry echoes of which we daily hear in the violent articles of the *Prensa*, *Tribuna*, *Argentino*, *Tiempo*, etc.

It is idle to disguise it—the people are working themselves into a dangerous mood, and, no matter how great the confidence of Governments in their powers of control and of shaping events, a moment may come when the present ferment may render matters very critical. At the rate Chile and Argentina are arming in a dangerous rivalry for military preponderance the climax cannot be distant: preparing for a fray is a dangerous game, and the contagion of warlike spirit always spreads like wildfire. Meantime, there is in the councils of Government a certain feeling of security both here in the Casa Rosada and in the Moneda, but that feeling hangs upon—shall we say a man or upon a name—Guerrero. It has anything but a peaceful ring, yet it sounds sympathetically in Argentine ears. His presence in the Chilian Cabinet is like an olive-branch sent across the Andes. We believe that this is but a slender foundation for any sense of security in the near future.

Let us but watch the course of recent events—we shall go back but a few days. No sooner did Guerrero cross the Andes on his journey home than a great banquet was mooted to the Limits' Commissioner Sr. Barros Arana: the significant feature lies in the popular as well as official color of this banquet, proposed at the very moment that Sr. Guerrero, who joins issue with Barros Arana, arrives in Chile. This may not necessarily be viewed as a rebuff—far from it—nor as a warning, but we cannot help thinking that the peculiar deity that envelops in its protecting folds intrigues, diplomacy, larceny, "et hoc genus omne"—Mercury—is pulling the strings in Santiago de Chile. Already there are ominous rumors of disagreement in the Chilian Cabinet, even before Guerrero has been incorporated! Already there are whisperings that the name, sympathetic to Argentines, grates upon the Chilian, that whatever propositions the new Minister may bring from the Atlantic will be refused on the Pacific. Rumors, rumors, nothing but rumors! Rumblings only, but they are of account, not to say a direct warning.

All's well that ends well: but Chile and Argentina at the present juncture are being whirled into a vortex, they are rushing into positions that may bring on a collision—like two express trains launched from opposite termini—all hangs on the pointsmen—Alcorta and Guerrero—but should the latter not turn up? "Cave."

DEATH OF SENOR GUERRERO.

Jan. 14th

The funeral of this esteemed gentleman took place yesterday afternoon, and was largely attended.

Deceased was, for the last quarter of a century, one the best known men in Buenos Aires, owing to the immense fortune which he inherited from his daughter (Mrs. Alzaga) through one of the greatest tragedies ever known in this city.

Mr. Guerrero came to this country a boy from Spain, and worked his way up until he reached the respectable position of a head lighterman, which thirty years ago, when there were no docks, no Riachuelo port, was a 'gremio' of great importance. The Casares, of course, held the front rank, and then Nuñez, Guerrero and others. Mr. Guerrero, when we first knew him, lived in a quiet little house in Calle Mexico round the corner of Calle Defensa, within a stone's throw of Noble's grocery store, and a couple of squares from James Bell's. The STANDARD office in those days was in Calle Defensa next door to Bell's store and facing the 'paredon' of the Church of San Francisco. The whole neighbourhood in those days was intensely English. Old Don T. Drysdale lived up stairs in Vivot's, house called the "vereda ancha". There was no water supply in the town, and as Guerrero's house had a large 'algibe', the neighbours used to send round for water. A little girl in her teens always came out to give permission to take the water. She was beautiful, simple and attractive. That girl afterwards became Mrs. Alzaga. Martin Alzaga was well known in the "barrio". He knocked about in the English houses and shops and often spent an hour or two in the little STANDARD Office, telling us of his hardships in the time of Rosas, when an exile in Brazil. Although belonging to one of the richest families in the country, he had to earn his living as a 'peon' in Rio Grande, loading coffee bags in the ships. On the fall of Rosas he came in for his property; and when we knew him, he was very rich and a man about 60, tall, powerfully built. Guerrero and Alzaga were great friends, and to the astonishment of the whole "barrio", he married Miss Guerrero, who was then about 15, and they lived in Calle Venezuela in great style in a large 3 patioed house in which years afterwards the late Mr. John Drysdale resided for so many years. Mr. Alzaga had some of the finest estancias in the country, and Martin Alzaga every year took his young wife and his young children to the well known estancia "La Postrera" on the Salado. The estancia house was a fine old building with large Moorish corridors and surrounded by a natural plantation of Tala trees. The estancia was washed by the Salado for four leagues, and there were four passes across the river on the estancia. In those days there were no bridges, and the river was crossed in a "Balza" tied on to a horse's tail. We give all these particulars because they all bear upon the tragedy which the death of Mr. Guerrero revives, and which twenty-four years ago threw the whole city of Buenos Aires into mourning. On the Alzaga estancia there were numerous Irish sheep-farmers, "Medianeros", who all rose to rapid fortunes. Alzaga and his wife were beloved by all. Not far from the Alzaga estancia was the Saenz Valiente estancia, fifteen square leagues, a magnificent property, also the Martinez de Hoz estancia which was considered then the best managed property in the whole country.

Don Martin Alzaga took ill suddenly in town, and died, leaving his widow with two children. She lived in Calle Venezuela, esteemed and beloved by all, and used to pass some months with her children at her late husband's quinta on the Calle Larga, close to the Banderita, fronting Senillosa's and the Saenz Valiente quinta. Both her children died, and she herself, the owner of an immense fortune and so young a widow, was courted by many. In memory of her late husband she had built a Chapel on the estancia and had organized a great fete to welcome Dr. Escalada, the Archbishop, with Dean Dillon and others, out on the estancia to bless the church.

On the very day of her death she was busy buying things in town to send out to the estancia. She lived at the quinta in Barracas and had made all arrangements to start the next morning for the estancia.

Some say that she had a presentiment of her fate, as on the day in question she was in very low spirits, and told her servants that she could not dispel the depression. They all advised her to keep up heart and leave for the estancia, where the bracing camp air would soon revive her.

There's a time when hope deceives, and we feel
a deeper gloom.

She did everything to keep up her spirits on that day; visited friends and drove from shop to shop, but when she returned to the quinta on the Barraca road she again felt depressed, and her servants remarked that she was very sorrowful and silent.

Oh leave me to my sorrow,
For my heart is sad to-day.
Oh leave me, and to-morrow
Dark shadows will pass away.

But that morrow for her never came.

That evening Mr. O'Campo, one of her suitors who was madly in love with her, hearing that she was off in the morning to the estancia to meet the Archbishop, and that his rival, Saenz Valiente, formed one of the party, went to the quinta to demand her hand once and for ever, as she had been putting him off for a long time, and it was generally supposed that she cared nothing for him.

He was intensely excited, and as the story goes, entered the sala, and told her that he was so madly in love with her that she must marry him right off, and that he would never allow her to marry anyone else. She, however, with much feminine courage, refused, and rising from the sofa, she was proceeding to leave the room when he took out a revolver and shot her. Saenz Valiente, who was in the house at the time, hearing the report, entered the room, and, as it was generally said, then shot Ocampo, but others insist that Ocampo when he saw her fall put the pistol to his head and blew his brains out. The veil that was thrown over the awful scene has never yet been lifted and the shudder which we all felt when the news of this tragedy spread is almost revived whenever the sad story is told. Dying without children, Mrs. Alzaga's father, Mr. Guerrero, the subject of this obituary, inherited the colossal fortune of the Alzagas. He built a magnificent house in Calle Florida next door to the Aguila. where he resided up to his death; he did more: he raised on the very spot in the quinta in Barracas where his daughter was assassinated in 1872 a Chapel of Expiation, one of the most beautiful churches in this city, "Santa Felicitas," and also an orphanage.

Mr. Guerrero died at the ripe age of 79 years.

R. I. P.

DEATH OF MR. HUMPHREY CHAMBERLAIN.

It is our paintul duty to announce the death of Mr. Humphrey Chamberlain, C. E., which occurred on Friday evening, the sad news being received here by cable yesterday. We presume that the death occurred at his residence at Norwood.

Mr. Chamberlain, who was some 51 or 52 years old, first came to the River Plate many years ago on engineering and railway business, his high abilities rapidly earning him a prominent position. When the Central Uruguay Railway was taken over by an English syndicate from the primitive native company, Mr. Chamberlain was appointed Manager, and eventually Managing Director, having earned the fullest confidence of the Board and shareholders. Under his able and careful management the Railway expanded and developed rapidly, and it was practically he who laid the foundations of the solid and successful concern that the Railway now is. Compelled by continued ill-health to abandon his post some three years ago, on his return to England he was at once given a seat on the Board, where his practical counsel snd knowledge were highly valued by his colleagues. Very recently the Uruguayan Government conferred on him the post of Honorary Inspector of Railway Material. We are unable to state the immediate cause of his death, but according to recent letters he was suffering from a severe attack of bronchitis.

Mr. Chamberlain was one of the kindest of men, and enjoyed the love as well as the respect of his subordinates on the railway, and the general esteem of the English colony here, by all of whom his death will be sincerely regretted. Whilst here he always took an active interest in the affairs of the community, which was continued by many kindly and friendly acts after his departure. He was married to Stella, daughter of the Revd. Dr. Smith, for many years rector of St. John's Church at Buenos Aires. Mrs. Chamberlain survives to lament his loss, but he leaves no family. We repeat our expressions of regret at his decease, in which we are sure all of our readers who knew him will share.—*Montevideo Times.*

THE SECRET SESSION.

The Ordinary and Extraordinary Session of the Congress of 1895 has come to an end after six months of most laborious work, of most important and variegated discussion. It was born in broad day-light, but was cradled in mystery, and now closes the chapter in secrecy. International politics, Government appointments, administrative reforms, votes for armament, nay, the very financial bills were discussed in secret sittings—why? Can it be that the little black cloud on the Western horizon involves in its shadows the whole machinery of Government and legislation? It must be so, and we must frankly confess that if this Chilian bug-bear is to be blamed for the secrecy of Congress sittings and for enormous expenditure on war material, it must also be blessed for the salutary reform that we see carried out not only in every department of the Government, but more especially for its remarkable welding power in internal politics: a magician's wand seems to have been swept over the political ferment of local factions, and all Argentines are to-day united shoulder to shoulder, animated by the axiom—Unity is the strength.

Roquistas, Radicals, and Mitristas have shaken hands over the benches of this Congress, which will be recorded in our legislative annals as the Secret Congress—all local squabbles were stifled, and with unanimity they spurred the apathetic Cabinet of Uriburu into action, upsetting a War Minister, making a clean sweep in the War and Navy departments, and thundering against a finance Minister who in a moment of excessive financial caution tried to stem the current of expenditure in army organization.

For once the Congress of 1895 has answered the expectations of the people, and the Deputies and Senators can withdraw to their homes on the plains or in the mountains cheered by the echo of popular applause; eve London joins in the chorus, for one of the transcendental measures of the Secret Congress is the settlement of the Railway Guarantees and the removal thereby of the chief stumbling block to the credit of Argentina in the great money market of the world. Public opinion also triumphed in the defeat of the Government Bill for the Unification of National and Provincial Foreign Debts, in spite of secret sittings and Ministerial disclosures to overcome the opposition of Senators and Deputies. The adverse vote of the Senate saved the Nation from the onerous burden of scores of millions of fresh indebtedness.

The Secret Congress may also claim the credit of having turned a half-hearted, shilly-shallying Government into one of action and energy, in harmony with the aspirations of the country and the views of the legislators. As the Session closes and the doors of the Hall are locked, one sees with satisfaction that the Government, the Congress, and the People are pledged to one policy, to one wish, from La Quiaca to Cape Horn—peace and union—probably a solitary instance in the history of the Argentine Republic.

This Secret Congress has voted away millions—how much, nobody knows: It is public that the most onerous budget ever presented by any finance minister has been sanctioned in a gallop, and whatever reduction has been made in these estimates is not due to legislative initiative, but to the Government. Congress never retrenches, it always increases expenditure, and until the National Accountant draws up the figures we shall not know how the Budget stands, but of one thing we may feel certain—the Government estimates have been increased. As to secret votes for armament, the figures can only be conjectured. In our private opinion, the Secret Congress has authorized during the six months an extra expenditure for war preparations to the amount of at least five millions sterling. The very last act of Congress was to vote in secret two millions sterling for new war-ships—in this final vote and final sitting is condensed the whole history and spirit of the 1895 session.

A GREAT ANNIVERSARY.

January, 18th

This day twenty-five years ago, in the smoke of the guns from the German batteries and from the ramparts and forts of Paris, representatives of all the German States met in the Gallerie des Glaces of the Palace of Versailles and proclaimed King William of Prussia Emperor of Germany. The sceptre so proudly carried by the Salier, the Franken, the Hohenstaufen, so pusillanimously cast away by a Habsburg in a historic moment of unpardonable weakness, was placed in the hands of the Hohenzollern, the fortunate and heroic descendant of the proud Brandenburger Kurfürst who on the very same day, one hundred and seventy years before, rivetted to his brows the crown of Prussia.

Germans celebrate to-day a national jubilee. The 18th of January of 1871 closed in the history of Germany what may be termed a lengthy interrenum and marked in the history of the world the resumption of the old German Empire tradition—rent asunder by French victories and consolidated after many years by French defeats. That the Fates should have signalled a Hohenzollern for the historic event, not a Habsburg, may be traced to events beyond the control of man, as sincerely believed by the present young Emperor of Germany. But in the eyes of a practical world, making all due allowance for providential influences, the German Empire is the result of a national aspiration personnified in the giant genius of one man—Bismarck. In fact this jubilee celebration by Germans all over the world is the apotheosis of the Man of Blood and Iron, whose name rings through the world like a sledgehammer blow on the mighty anvil of German Unity

The German residents of the Plate celebrate the great anniversary to-day in the Pabellon Argentina with the patriotic enthusiasm so pronounced in all their national feasts. The old site of the Retiro Barracks with its pretty Pavilion will to-night be turned into a piece of Germany on the banks of the Spree or the Rhine. The program is most enticing, and proceedings will begin in the gardens at 8.30 p.m. President Roca will attend.

LATEST FROM THE RIO NEGRO.

Viedma, Jan. 11.

To the Editor of the STANDARD,

Dear Sir,

The young men of Viedma having resolved on presenting a gold plate to Mr George William Humble in honour of his appointment as Governor (pro tem.) of the territory of the Rio Negro, the last night of the year 1895 was the date fixed for the presentation.

Accordingly, at about 10 p.m., a large and select number of the young men of Viedma, accompanied by music and fireworks, proceeded to the residence of his father, Doctor A. G. Humble, and, amid torrents of fervid eloquence, the presentation was made. The utmost harmony prevailed, and refreshments were provided on a liberal scale.

After leaving, the company proceeded to the Government House to salute His Excellency, General Bernal.

On the following night a select ball was given in honour of ex-Governor Humble, so as to give the fair sex of Viedma an opportunity of joining in the general festivities.

The Gold Plate, which is a real work of art, made in Buenos Ayres, bears the following inscription engraven in Spanish:—"A Jorge G. Humble, con motivo de su nombramiento de Gobernador Interino del Territorio, sus amigos le dedican este recuerdo. Viedma, Julio 17 de 1895".

The inhabitants of Viedma and Patagones take a lively interest in the proposed railway extension from Bahia Blanca to Neuquen. The general feeling is that the proposed extension will injure Patagones and Viedma, by diverting the traffic from those towns, and perhaps by leading to the transference of the Capital of the Territory from Viedma to Roca, so that Patagones and Viedma would be left, as it were, out in the cold. The proposal of making a bridge over the Rio Negro, connecting Viedma with Patagones, is regarded with general satisfaction.

The Municipality of Patagones have taken the idea into their heads of converting the old and disused Cemetery into a public garden, and so compelling the friends and relatives to remove the remains of those interred therein! Why not let the dead rest in their graves? Besides, it is very doubtful if trees and plants would grow in the old Cemetery unless continually watered; and, more than that, probably but few persons would care to "pasear" in a place so full of sad recollections. If the idea be carried out, the Municipality of Patagones ought certainly to be presented with a large medal *made of leather!*

Yours truly,

X. Y. Z.

THE INTERNAL TAXES.

In view of the more or less stationary condition of the National Revenue from customs dues, the chief aim of Argentine Finance Ministers of late years has been to seek new resources in the levying of internal taxes. Apart from the Customs gold revenue the Government always relied on a paper revenue from land tax, stamps, licences, water rates, lease and sale of public lands, railways, Post-Office, telegraphs, etc., but all this has been found far from adequate to meet the growing requirements of the Treasury.

Deficits in the budget succeed each other with yearly religiosity; the time-honored excuse for such financial irregularity is the uncertainty of relations with our neighbors, calling for extraordinary expenditure in armaments at an awkward moment when the country has forfeited its credit and cannot attempt to launch a loan in the great money-markets of the world.

Under these painful circumstances both Congress and the Government are agreed to squeeze out of the people in the shape of excise or internal taxes the millions needed to redress the balance in the budget. Up to the present the effort has not been crowned with success; but the growth of the excise figures warrant a hope that before long financial ingenuity will manage to make excise one of the chief sources of national revenue. We are only watching the birth of this new taxation, and it already bids fair to give the Government this year over 15,000,000$ m/n. Our beer, our wine, our matches, our tobacco, our alcohols, are now well within the grasp of this new tax-collector, and as the Government is spending more money than ever, buying more arms and more ironclads, we are at liberty to suppose that Minister Romero is now burning midnight oil to find some new dodges and tricks to swell the revenue.

In 1894 these internal taxes gave 87,500$ gold and 7,295,000$ paper: in 1895 the gold item fell to 5000$, but the paper figures rose to 9,500,000$ m/n. The returns are classified as follows:—

	1894		1895	
	$ gold	$ paper	$ gold	$ paper
Alcohol..	—	5,225,332	—	5,435,026
Matches.		1,333,770		1,687,389
Banks...	87,206	236,217	4,619	75,042
Beer....		315,276		415,267
Do(small)		40,064		12,380
Wines...		123,358		159,502
Cards...		520		4,139
Tobacco.		—		1,623,382
J. Stock Co's..	255	—		—
Interest.		6,956		57,925
Fines...		3,618		11,231
	87,457	7,295,000	4,619	9,481,000

The figures of 1895 do not include the Joint-Stock Companies, the revenue from that source passing to the National Stamp Office; we may state here, however, that this company tax produced in 1895 214,000 dollars.

If we study the above figures we see that alcohol is more or less stationary, but the full brunt of the increase in the tax, no less than 100%, if we are not mistaken, will be felt this year. The increase in matches need not be traced to increase of population or great increase of consumption, but to discovery of a big fraud. The new feature in 1895 was the so-called Tobacco-tax; it should be dubbed a tax on tobacco, cigars and cigarettes, as the two latter are now generally made of potato and cabbage leaves steeped in nicotine or valertian and seasoned for the Porteño palate. This tobacco tax gave in the few months during which it was enforced at the end of 1895 over 1½ million, and is expected to give four millions in 1896—we very much doubt it.

With the figures of 1895 before us we doubt much if Minister Romero will squeeze out of 1896 the millions that he needs for his monstrous Budget, and he will have to fall back on that unfathomable revenue resource—Leyes Especiales and Recursos Extraordinarios—which may mean anything, from a foreign loan to an issue of Funded Bonds or Cedulas.

THE ANGLO-GERMAN INCIDENT.

It is a well known fact that Emperor Williams's sympathies, as well as those of the whole German nation, are with the Boers, and whatever little error the young Kaiser may have committed can only be put down to his enthusiasm for the cause of those plucky, but rather obstinate descendants of Africanders, Dutch and French.

Without wishing to attach too much importance to that unfortunate telegram, there is no doubt that, in spite of all explanations tendered on that painful subject, the Emperor William has alienated, for many years at least, the sympathies of the British people, whose destiny seemed so much bound up with that of Germany, thus causing a serious breach in a bond of amity which had lasted for two centuries without any serious interruption.

But throughout this whole question we must count on another element, more important than the enthusiastic and, perhaps, hot-headed utterances of a monarch with "Gottes Gnaden" ideas, as the Kaiser possesses them. The proverbial good sense of England and Germany will do much to smooth over matters, and besides a momentary interruption of friendly relations is by no means equivalent to any danger of war, a contingency not to be reckoned on by any sensible Briton or Teuton.

But with regard to the Kaiser's "faux pas", and such it must be termed, even by his most fervent admirers, I would like to ask: Is the game worth the candle? Are the Boers worth the trouble of causing William II to lose England's friendship? Whence this enthusiasm for liberty abroad that is not so willingly conceded at home? The Kaiser congratulates President Krüger, assures him of his support and sympathy, and afterwards complains like the school-boy of old that he did n't mean and won't do it again. The young Hohenzollern has evidently much to learn.

Now: what have the Boers done to rouse such universal admiration? Of course, they have fought for their liberty and independence and fought well. Other nations have done the same and more, but have not been lauded up in the skies and slavered over as if they were the only heroic people of modern times. The Boer represents conservatism in its most ignorant and primitive form. Brave he undoubtedly is, but he has many equals in this respect. He is a patriot, well and good; bravery and patriotism are not exclusively confied to Boers. Perhaps Argentines are as brave and patriotic, or more so. But a European sovereign, even a Kaiser Wilhelm, would think twice before he ever would send the Argentine President, even in a similar case of supposed aggression, a telegram like that received by President Krüger.

I have enumerated the Boer's two principal virtues. Now as to his failings. He is cruel and oppresive. Witness his treatment of the native. How he grinds down and despises the African, be he Matabele, Penoh or Zulu. He shoots him like a dog if he resists, and grants him no civil rights whatever. Now how does he treat the Nitlanders who have made his country what it is? Mr' Boer has been staying at home smoking his pipe, while the Saxon oppressor has been working without a hope of ever obtaining citizenship or a participation in the government of the country he has made with his own capital and enterprise.

But Krüger and Joubert know what they are about. If they allow the Nitlanders equal rights, which all other countries concede to naturalized foreigners, they will find in time that England will own the Transvaal. She will do so anyhow, in spite of the narrow-minded policy upheld by President Krüger and his Volksraad. No congratulation telegrams or foreign intervention will stop events in the Transvaal or prevent that country from ultimately belonging to Great Britain. The consequence may be a coolness between England and Germany. But then England is not without friends.

The strong never are.

Max Loewenstein.

B. Aires, 14th Jan., 1896.

SOUTH AMERICAN LAND COMPANY.

The directors, in their report, submit the balance-sheet and revenue accounts for the year ended June 30, 1895, duly audited. The following particulars are given:—

CATTLE.		
The count of cattle on the Estancia on June 30, 1894, was.....		8,513
The calves marked during the current year were.....		2,001
There were purchased (bulls)....		21
		10,535
From this total must be deducted:—		
Cattle sold during the year	2,115	
" died.....	197	
" slaughtered.....	146	
" unaccounted for..	41	
		2,499
Number on Estancia at June 30, 1895.....		8,036
SHEEP.		
The count of sheep on the Estancia on June 30, 1894, was.....		18,657
The lambs marked during the current year were.....		8,099
There were purchased (rams)....		11
		26,767
From this total must be deducted:—		
Sheep sold.....	1,801	
" died.....	393	
" slaughtered.....	1,016	
" unaccounted for..	356	
		3,566
Number on Estancia on June 30, 1895.....		23,201
HORSES.		
The count of horses on the Estancia on June 30, 1894, was.....		419
The foals marked during the current year were.....		71
		490
From this total must be deducted:—		
Horses sold.....	3	
" died.....	13	
" unaccounted for..	5	
		21
Number on Estancia June 30, 1895.....		469

Since the last meeting, the Western Railway Company have decided to extend their lines from Trenquelauquen to Toay, and from General Pinto to Villegas. The first-named extension will place the company's land about 18 miles nearer the railway, which will be of some advantage, and any further extension of the line from Villegas should also materially benefit this company. Mr. Shennan, who has just returned from the River Plate, visited Trenel early in October, and inspected the company's property. He found the place in excellent order, and the stock, both sheep and cattle, in first-rate condition and much improved in quality since his previous visit in April, 1893. The profit and loss account for the year shows the result of working the Estancia together with rents received, to be £2,413 8s. 2d., which, after deducting £581 4s. for general expenses and reserves, leaves a net profit of £1,832 4s. 2d. To this has been added the amount brought forward, £8,186 17s. 6d. and £21 1s. 11d. divided on investment in Buenos Aires making a total of £10,040 3s. 7d. out of which the directors recommend a dividend of 2½ per cent. This will absorb £2,500, leaving £7,540 3s. 7d. to be carried forward.

THE BOERISH DIFFICULTY.

January 14th

In our last issue we casually remarked that in Africa there is a celebrated mountain ridge known as the Mountains of the Moon, and that "before this Boer question is over, we shall probably receive telegrams from that quarter". Our words proved but too true. Yesterday we had a telegram announcing on the authority of the *Westminster Gazette*, a most respectable London paper, that the German Emperor maintains that, as eldest son of the eldest child of Queen Victoria, he is the rightful heir to the British throne, and that in high court German circles His Majesty asserts his claim with the greatest seriousness: furthermore, that in all questions between England and Germany His Majesty uses an authoritative style as if he was head of the English Royal Family. The *Frankfurter Zeitung*, a most influential German paper, says that the Emperor William, on the death of Queen Victoria, will claim the throne of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland and will assert his claim to the British throne by force of arms!! This is indeed news from the Mountains of the Moon. What next?

In St. Petersburg the Boer question is regarded as a veritable duel between England and Germany, and that each day the question is becoming more serious. The

Moscow papers say that all the European Powers that sided with England on the Venezuelan question oppose her now on the Boer question. Mr. Hammond, a North American miner of great repute, has been arrested on a charge of treason by the Boer Government. He has appealed to the American Government for protection. Hammond is the son of an Irishman born in the United States and was one of the head movers in the attempted revolution in Johannesburg against the Boer Government.

It seems that in the second fight with Jameson, at Krugersdorp, he lost heavily: the fight was hand to hand, and the Boers han 150 killed.

The Prince of Wales visited the Foreign Office on Saturday, and had a long interview with Mr. Chamberlain about the Boer question. Much importance is attached to this interview by the London papers.

The Walloon Association in Brussels has sent a congratulatory telegram to President Krueger on his signal victory over Jameson. Leopold, the wise King of the Belgians, is going to England to see the Queen with the avowed object of restoring peace between the Queen and her grandson, the Emperor of Germany.

The Austrian Foreign Affairs Minister has issued a circular note to the Powers stating that this question between Germany and England can in nothing affect the triple alliance.

The *Pall Mall Gazette* of Saturday says Krueger had extended the time of the rebels to lay down their arms till 6 o'clock that evening, and that up to the latest advices, they had only surrendered 3 of the 50 Maxim guns they are known to have. The grandson of Krueger had galloped in to Johannesburg and fired off rockets in the Plaza, which caused great annoyance and disturbance. The authorities arrested him and sent him prisoner to Krugersdorf.

The telegrams in London to members of the Stock Exchange from their friends in Johannesburg up to Saturday night say that the crisis in the Transvaal is far from being over.

Krueger insists on annulling the 1884 treaty, also that all the Amatong territory which England annexed lately be handed back to the Boer Republic as indemnity for Jameson's invasion.

The Orange Free Republic has joined the Boers and made common cause against England.

ET TOUJOURS ARTON!

Paris, Dec. 14th, 1895.

Liars! thunders the Press, and the echo of French public opinion answers: Shame! The Villains! Most humbly do I crave the classical STANDARD's pardon for distorting, or at least seemingly distorting the functions of the Echo, condemned by Olympic decree, as my readers are aware, to repeat the last word of each sentence heard, but many, very many changes have taken place since the days when the gay nymph, in fulfilment of the penalty imposed on her, mockingly repeated the cherished name of Eurydice! in response to the plaintive song of the weeping Orpheus. After a lapse of a couple of thousand years, the echo, we may take it, has served out its term of punishment and no longer refuses the caresses of the Spirit of change which has left its impress on the annals of mankind. In Ireland, where enlightenment up to a recent date was privately distilled under the cover of the bridge, as potheen is to the present day, there is an echo that appears to have broken the combined fetters of Olympic and Tory oppression and to be fairly wedded to that advancement, of which the "First Gem of the Sea" has given so many remarkable instances in every province of human research. Who has not heard of the Vale of Glendalough? whose seven churches, by the way, embody more history even than the seven hills of Rome, charming and delightful spot which I once visited "on a lark", although Moore most unornithologically and with poetic inaccuracy, states that it is no place for larks. The presence of a jaunting-car seemed to me a singular adjunct to the scene, but the echo—

Was something more exquisite still.

Standing on "the gloomy shore" Pat, the guide, shouts "How are yees? Whereupon bounding from grove to grove, skipping from rock to rock, the echo, that keeps watch over the mysterious bed of St. Kevin, replies: "Quite well, and yessel!" The story is an old one, as old as the echo itself, and if I repeat it my aim is no other than to excuse the vagaries of the French echo—now pealing through the Boulevards bounding from kiosk to kiosk, and whose emulation of its Irish compeer is not, after all, very surprising—there exists so much affinity if not so much community of sentiment between the two races. Besides, it is not the first time the French have used "our thunder," and even to the present day their language bears the traces of the memorable visit of Gallic ally to "la verte Erin." Take that expression, for instance, which is the pepper and salt of Boulevard conversation. Ah! Monsieur!—clearly a corruption Ah! Musha—the commonest exclamation in Ireland, or that slangy word "gosse"—meaning boy or rather the "broth of one." Nobody will deny its derivation from "gossoon," et sic de multis.

However, in pursuing the echo, I have wandered very far from my subject. I begin again.

Liars! thunders the Press, and Arton's letter, which the *Figaro* published this morning, is hurled at the head of the three ex-Ministers, who have been bamboozling the public with garbled versions of the steps taken to capture the arch-briber. The shaft from Holloway Prison has struck home. In this letter—which has caused a commotion and confusion no pen could describe—Arton sets forth and offers to prove—

1st—That when compelled to quit the gay soil of France, he was tracked by a detective who, although armed with a warrant of arrest, had unquestionably instructions not to arrest him. The detective even passed a month with him in Venice.

2nd—That Mr. Georges Lefebre, in the name of the French Minister of Justice, offered him certain advantages in exchange for the "compromising documents," and this offer was made in the presence of three witnesses.

Arton, furthermore, promises to hand over, at no distant date, the compromising documents for publication. His letter, in the meantime, confirms what we all knew, but that which the ex-Ministers so strenuously denied. As for M. Ricard, the Garde des Sceaux, in spite of the efforts of some papers to defend him, he is placed in a very false position. Mr. Newton was right: an attempt had been made—as he graphically and almost "gallically" put it—"to coquet with Justice."

As a consequence of these developments, the scandal is greater than ever, so great indeed that—impelled perhaps by a foreign hand and perchance home-treachery—it aims—not at the miserable crowd of suborned deputies, but at the Presidency, at the Republic, at the very destinies of France. And one is all the more inclined to take this view of the situation, when one ponders on the silence of the Presidency and the hesitation of the Bourgeois Cabinet, itself the quintessence of honesty and the incarnation of purity of principle. The Government is conscious of a hidden danger lurking in those compromising documents' or coiled up like a snake under the very bench of Justice. To mete out punishment to the suborned legislators is simply to stain the honor of the Chamber. The Chamber is part of the Government, the Government is the impersonation of a glorious people, a people that marches in the very first rank in that grand and imposing procession of nations, the sound of whose tread on the hard road of existence must fill with awe the soul of him, who, in the solitude of he study, bending over the tome of history, pauses to listen.

In this terrible moral scuffle, of which Paris is the scene and humanity the spectator, both men and institutions are involved, and already those allies of scandal, hatred, jealousy and calumny have struck the very chair on which the President is seated. Mons. Faure, from his eminence perceives the true direction of the storm-wind. Shall he, like Perier, resign and beat an ignominious retreat? Or does he tremble at the danger which the dissolution of the Chamber might provoke? Resignation and chaos on the one hand, dissolution and reform on the other—there are two courses open to him.

Nothing could be easier nor more logical, in this stupendous dilemma, than to provoke a conflict and dissolve the Chamber, and the threat of "compromising documents" would most effectually preclude the reelection of the venal herd of suborned representatives. The presence of a Radical Cabinet in power would render the experiment dangerous. Better however, to plunge the country into the perilous excitement of a general election and violent political transition, than to steep the fair name of France in shame, opprobrium and dishonor, amid the sneers of German contempt, the laugh of British success, and the far-off Russian indifference.

Why should France drive into the ordinary criminal court the faithless sons who have betrayed her, who have laid hands on the savings of her people? To rob your neighbour is an offence that human law can punish; but to rob a nation!—search not in the Pandects nor the Code Napoleon (fatal name) for a definition or a penalty. Our language is too poor to define, our laws too weak to furnish, our idea of justice too limited to measure the enormity of the offence.

The law-courts deal with him who takes the life of a fellow-creature; but he who kills not one but a million, who steeps a continent in mourning and floods countries with human blood. Oh! that one is beyond the reach of man. The detectives who capture him, are *Events*—they do not "coquet with Justice." Disaster is their warrant of arrest. The witnesses brought against him are his acts, which history may qualify as conquests, or a sycophant art emblazon as national triumphs in the enduring brass of the enemy's cannon on the Place Vendome. The Judge who tries and condemns him never speaks, and invisible is the hand that binds him to the rock on which, in the ocean—sarcasm of fate—in the prison of immensity, he is sentenced to moulder piecemeal.

There are financial Napoleons. One has already found his St. Helena. Two are at present fighting their Waterloo. As for the rest, leave them alone. They are not worthy to be called criminals nor even to be punished as such. Let the consciousness of their own unutterable infamy devour them. Let them sink—down, down, down....

Scaevola.

LATEST FROM CHUBUT.

(From our own Correspondent)

Teka, Dec, 13th.

Dear STANDARD:

We are all immensely indebted to you for the great interest you have taken in our little far-off world. All the settlers are grateful that you have called the attention of General Roca to the unprotected state of this frontier, at the mercy of Chilian and Indian matauders. Fortunately, affairs have much improved since I last wrote, thanks to the timely arrival of the Governor of the Territory who is an old friend of yours and made several railway excursion trips with you and General Roca years ago. No sooner had he arrived than he appointed your humble servant as Chief Police authority of Stagira with peremptory orders to putan end to all the ferment and disorder among the Indians who now pronounce the name Stagira as if to the manor born. I have organized a body of mounted police and shall begin operations by seizing the Indian "Dios" or "Agorero", who is the cause of all the racket. Our Captain's name is Thomas, a Tipperany man: if the "Dios" resists there will be bloody work on the smiling plains of the Yenua.

In Trelew they much exaggerated the danger of the situation here, but all the better, since they have sent up a body of 40 good men to defend the colony. They arrived with a conviction that they would find us all murdered or beleaguered and our estancias burnt to the ground. At one moment affairs looked critical, and even to the present day we must keep our powder dry in this "Divortia Aquarum", between Indians and bandits. One of the most notorious of the latter has been captured at last, with 300 mares in his possession.

There is some talk of a steam tram from Chubut to the Italian Church—far better to build it from St. George's Gulf to Stagira: the line would go along a good road, through splendid camps, with plenty of grass and water. The Chubut valley you know is very barren and good for nothing. I know these lands well and can vouch for the fact that all the lands from Stagira are good lands for cattle and sheep.

For heaven's sake send us down more STANDARDS. There is always a rush for the paper whenever a cart arrives—and we are often disappointed.

The Governor has made himself very popular by his trip.

Yours,

M.

THE ALZAGA TRAGEDY.

We have to thank a fair subscriber for the following respecting the Alzaga tragedy to referred the other day:—

One summer evening Felicita, one of Mr. Guerrero's daughters, was standing at the door of her house in Calle Mejico, when it suddenly began to rain. At this moment a handsome, middle aged gentleman (Martin Alzaga) happened to pass by: seeing the beautiful girl standing at the door he stopped, and making a profound bow asked her could he take shelter from the rain. Miss Guerrero immediately acceded to the stranger's request. At the same time the young girl's mother came forward and asked him to go inside to the general sitting room where the family were assembled. A long conversation followed in which Mr. Alzaga asked his beautiful companion her name and age. Shortly afterwards he bade Mr. and Mrs. Guerrero good bye, thanking them for the hospitality he had received. Mr. Alzaga made his appearance next days to the surprise of the whole family. In the course of a general conversation, Mr. Alzaga jokingly remarked that he was looking for a wife and also hinted that he was well off. Miss Guerrero laughed at this and at other funny remarks. But the laughter turned into surprise and then astonishment when Mr. Alzaga rose, took off the long gold chain he wore and, stooping over Miss Felicita Guerrero threw it round her neck, telling Mr. and Mrs. Guerrero that he had chosen their beautiful and accomplished daughter as his wife. The earnest tones in which Mr. Alzaga uttered these words, his high position in Buenos Aires, backed up by enormous wealth, convinced the girl's parents that he was in earnest, and they consented to the marriage, which took place next day.

A short time passed when Mr. Alzaga died suddenly, leaving a little son. His beautiful young wife went into mourning. She had barely thrown if off when her child, then 4 years of age, died from empacho. Time passed on, but Mrs Alzaga's beauty proved a fatal gift, as she was soon surrounded with admirers. Her two principal suitors were Mr. Ocampo and Mr. Saenz Valiente now married to Miss Lola Urquiza. Mrs. Alzaga became engaged to Mr. Ocampo, and all the preparations for a splendid marriage ceremony were at once begun. But the future husband heard that Saenz Valiente was still paying his intended too many attentions and he therefore called one evening at Mrs. Alzaga's quinta in Barracas, and requested the servant to hand in his card to Mrs. Alzaga, who was at that moment seated in the drawing room talking to her father, mother and several friends whilst waiting for the dinner bell to ring. Her father knew that his daughter did not care very much for her future husband, who had latterly displayed a certain amount of gruffness towards her, and therefore begged, nay implored, Mrs. Alzaga to let him see Mr. Ocampo. The beautiful widow refused and, waving her hand, left the room and entering an adjoining apartment, was confronted by her future husband. Two minutes had not elapsed when the report of two revolver shots rang out; the family and guests rushed into the room and found Mrs. Alzaga lying on the floor with a bullet wound in the region of the heart, whilst Mr. Ocampo was stretched in a corner of the room with a bullet in his chest. Mrs. Alzaga was carried upstairs, where she breathed her last a few minutes later, Mr. Ocampo died whilst being taken to his residence.

Mr. Guerrero then built a chapel in Barracas after his daughter's name, on the very spot where she died. The statue of Mrs. Alzaga and her little son can still be seen in the Felicitas chapel at Barracas.

The magnificent house alongside the Aguila in Calle Florida was built for Mrs. Alzaga. The ceiling of the dining room alone cost £600 and was pulled down and remade three times before it satisfied the taste of the future mistress of the Palace.

THE ANGLO-VENEZUELAN QUESTION.

LATEST FROM TRANSVAAL.

The following are the latest particulars of the Anglo-Venezuelan Question. At a Cabinet Council held by Lord Salisbury and his Ministers, it was resolved to resume diplomatic relations with Venezuela.

The *Westminster Gazette* states that England and Venezuela will again be on friendly terms. The *Standard* states that all the documents referring to England's right to the Venezuelan territory are being classified, and will soon be published. The *Standard* interprets Lord Salisbury's new policy, by stating that the British Premier was induced to try and settle the Venezuelan difficulty pacifically by the friendly feeling shown towards England by the United States. "We, says this same paper" seize this opportunity to show how magnanimous the United States has been towards us, whilst other Powers considered the time as just suitable for going against us by insulting and even threatning England. There is a rumour that the British Government is using Chile as a mediator to settle the Venezuelan difficulty.

Telegrams from Caracas announce that Messrs Leijas Laureano, Villanueva, Julian Viso and Antonio Saluzzo have been appointed to carefully look into and classify all the documents referring to the boundary line between British Guiana and Venezuela.

A bloody fight took place a few days ago between some young men who were hotly discussing the Anglo-Venezuelan Question.

In reference to the Transvaal Question, *The Standard* states that President Krüger has not asked for any change or modifications in the stipulations of the treaty signed in 1884. *The Standard* also declares that Emperor William's telegram to President Krüger was sent at a moment when the Emperor was very much irritated, and that friendly relations between England and Germany are as firm as ever.

The British public is no longer in a state of excitement, but the preparations for getting a large fleet ready are still being carried on. The Englishmen taken prisoners in the fight with the Boers will soon regain their liberty, Mr. Cecil Rhodes was heard to say a few days ago, that his political career only begins now and that he hopes to live long enough to do South Africa a great deal of good.

A telegram received from St. Petersburg states that the news about Russia helping Germany in the Transvaal Question is very doubtful and therefore not entirely to be relied on. Public opinion in Russia is decidedly adverse to Emperor William's meddling in the Transvaal.

The Paris *Figaro* states that Emperor Williams feign indifference to the violent articles published against him is a proof that he is convinced of his utter inability to do anything better than sending a silly telegram like the message to President Krüger, besides fully knowing that Germany would run a very poor chance indeed of coming out unscathed from a fight with the British lion.

The *National Zeitung* states that even if Emperor William does mention the Transvaal Question in his letters to Queen Victoria, what passes between the two Sovereigns is strictly private and cannot be considered as diplomatic correspondence.

A telegram from Berlin states that Emperor William has forbidden any hostile manifestation towards England.

The *Temps* states that recent questions have broken the alliances between the different European Powers, and that fresh ones will have to be made. The same organ declares that an alliance between England, France and Russia is not probable.

The Birmingham *Daily Post* states that England and France should be on terms of intimate friendship.

The *Independence Belge* received a telegram from Paris stating that England and France have settled the Upper Mekong Boundary Question.

The news that Mr. Bayard has asked Lord Salisbury to protect American citizens in the Transvaal has created great surprise. Mr. Chamberlain instructed the Governor of the Cape to grant the protection asked.

Special Notices.

BRITISH HOSPITAL.

List of Subscriptions and Donations for December, 1895.

Argentine Lighter Co	100 paper
A. Auld	10
Anonymous	50
Bieckert's Brewery Co	100
F. Bridger	100
B. Aires & Rosario Ry Co	200 gold
Blackpool Quinta, S. Nicolas, Lomas de Z	40.40 paper
Robt. Burns	25
Mr F Coulon	50
Isaac Cook	25 gold
J Browne Cowes	30 paper
Collections—	
Mrs Murtagh, Campana	14
Rymer O. Watson	557
Railway Clearing House, per A J Patterson	130
C H P Dashwood	218
F. C. S., Engineers' Department, per H. Barfield	266
" Head Office, Sola, per R. Gould	104
" Carriage & Waggon Depart., per do	31.50
" Locomotive & Running Dep., per do.	90.50
" Las Flores, per do.	66
" Dolores, per do	64.50
" Tandil	41
" Saladillo	15.50
" El Puerto	53
" Carriage & Waggon Dept. (Running)	72.30
" Locomotive Works	88.75
B. Aires & Rosario Railway, Gerencia Depart	148
Do, Accountants' do	83
Do. Locomotive, Carriage & Waggon Depart	220.20
Do, Stores Department	92.50
Do. Traffic Department	200
Do, Telegraph	26
Do, Signal	12
Do, Local Commission per T N Thornsby	35
Engineers' Depart., per J. Percy Clarke	245
F. C. S., Traffic Depart., per F. Gregory	127.50
Do. Ayacucho, per Mr Goodliffe	152.30
Do, Las Flores, per Mr Moore	280
Do, Canuelas, per Mr Blythman	244
Do, El Puerto, per Mr Phillip	401.50
Do, Plaza Section, per Mr. Taylor	351.90
Central Cordoba & Cordoba and Rosario Railway, per J. F. Coombe	271
Estancia Los Ingleses	51
Barclay, Mackintosh and Co, Staff	82
Staff Anglo-Argentino Bank	85
George Evans, Negrete	598
F Tetley, Espartillar	144
W. H. Tremayne (Blandengues	62
La Prevenida Insurance Co.	89
R. and J. Carlisle & Co, Staff	27
Fabricantes Ingleses	84
Alexander Grant	725.00
Hospital Collecting Box	9.87
Staff, Wanklyn, Crane and Co	135
C. W. Andrews	95
John Potts	40
Mrs Helen Drysdale	500
W Davis	20
Estancia Canádon	50
Helen Faust	20
Gibson Bros	120
Thomas Gibson	100
Mr. Williams Glynne	200
Sr. Girardini	25
W E O Haxell	20
Hawkshaw, Hayter, and Dobson	50.40 gold
Lowndes, Selby C	10 paper
Henry Langley	20
W Martindale	20
Mackill, Laidlaw & Co	50
W. Manson	10
Rev. Father O'Reilly	100
Essex Read	100
Mrs Roderhaus	20
R Simons	20
John Sewell	50 gold
The STANDARD	436 paper
John Todd	10
W Turnbull	10
F E Kinchant	25
Charles J Pearson	25
J G Walker	200
M Whitington	50
N. Williams, Estancia Eola	50
Whitworth & Co	20

New Wards Fund.

B. A. Gt. Southern Railway	1008 gold
Rosario Railway	252
R J Farran	250 paper
Houlder Bros	1000
Lamport & Holt	1000
Lockwood & Co	100
London & R. Plate Bank	504 gold
R. Plate Trust, Loan and Agency Co	1000 paper
R. Plate Petroleum Co	100
James Smart	100

Further subscriptions and donations will be thankfully received by the undersigned or by any member of the Committee.

E. E. Cordner,
Hon. Treasurer.
649 15-16

THE IRISH CATHOLIC ASSOCIATION,
IN ACCOUNT CURRENT WITH MR. PATRICK HAM, TREASURER.

Cr.

	$
Dec. 7th—From Mr. E. Morgan, Arrecifes, donation	100.00
" 20th—Mr. Wm. Minnock, donation	5.00
" 21st—Mrs. Margaret M. de Morgan annl. sub.	1000.00
" 30th—Mr. James Casey donation	100.00
	1205.00

Dr.

	$
Dec. 1st—Balance from last month	770.69
" 31st—To Father Pallares for December	140.00
	910 69
Balance in favour of the Association E. & E. O.	294.31

The Treasurer.

B. Ayres, Jan. 15th, 1896.

The Treasurer gratefully acknowledges as donation to the Orphanage from the STANDARD $55 m/n for publications during the year 1895.

662 j15 16

IRISH ORPHANAGE.

DECEMBER, 1895.

Cash Received.

	$ m/n
Balance	1089.83
Alfred J. White	10.00
Mrs. Barber	50.00
Mrs. Sichirich	10.00
Mrs. Colligan	55.00
Mr. Michael Laracy	20.00
	1234.83

Cash paid.

	$ m/n
Baker	181.50
Butcher	88.80
Dairy	75.05
Vegetables	37.75
Grocer	105.17
Soap and light	34.81
Fuel	36.62
Sundries	29.89
Infirmary	34.40
Clothing	41.10
Boots	49.21
Balance	520.53
	1234.83

Number of children, 124.

The Sisters of Mercy gratefully acknowledge the following presents for the Irish Orphanage:—

Mr. Mulhall $277 for publications. A friend a large quantity of good things for Christmas and New Year and table-cloths, etc. for the use of the Chaplain. The Misses Elisa and Maggie Ham 8 large cakes.

661 j15 16

LETTERS FROM THE RIO SALADO.

V

Hurrah! Our canoe floats once more on the waters of the Salado. And these waters are deep, clear, sweet to drink, without any taste of salt about them and covered with water, lilies and other aquatic weeds, below which, in countless numbers, jolly and succulent fishes play about.

I will unravel this mystery.

The Grumblers' grumbling I spoke of in my last was prophetic. Although, going higher up the Calchaqui, we succeeded in finding what might be called drinkable water, that fluid was of bad quality, and of little use save in a medicinal way. Game was scarce. Then the river became shallower and shallower, till at last we found it utterly impossible to drag the heavy canoe, loaded as it is with impedimenta and furs, farther up.

The motion to come back to the Salado was carried by unanimous vote.

This done, we observed with surprise that the Salado is only a salado below its junction with the Calchaqui. The salt in its waters is due to their mixture with the bitter, nasty, nauseous and purgative physic that flows in the bed of the last named river. But, as I said, northwards from that point, the water of the Rio Salado is perfectly sweet. It is the best water we have drunk for many a day.

* * *

And now we are again spending one of those (to me) delightful veillées, stretched around the camp fire in lazy attitudes, dreaming or conversing, but this last only seldom and deliberately. Behind us is the dark and impenetrable monte, at our feet the river. The fireflies are dancing and shooting about, spinning their fanciful webs of green or red light along in the darkness of the trees. Numberless insects are humming all round. From time to time there is a rustling sound in the thickness of the forest,—some carpincho or may be a pecari going about his business.—From the far off desert comes faintly the "yap yap" of the aguaras and the roar of the ostriches.

* * *

Some days ago, we left behind us the last "rancho" of the last estancia on the Indian frontier, a nice clean "rancho" built of palm-stems, inhabited—but this is an euphemism, for its owner seems to think like the Irishman that a house is "a place to go in when it rains"—by an honest "Guarani" speaking Correntino, his helpmate, a horde of sons, daughters and dogs, ostriches, a young ant-eater and an "aguará".—(By the way I must inform the uninitiated that the "aguará" is a red wolf of a large size, common enough in the Chaco. We shall have more to do with him)—We spent a day there, and Mr. Fritz beamed all over from dawn till night-fall, eating authentical beef, and "choclo", and "locro", and biscuit and, between whiles, sucking "mate" with sugar in it.

I thought our hosts would appreciate my adding fish to the fare, and in half an hour caught a dozen nice "dorados". But the old man only said: "You can eat them if you like. As for us, we take to that kind of "bicho" only when we have nothing else."

He had just received a lot of provisions, and shared with us in the most open-handed manner. He would n't accept of any money, he said he had no use for it. But skins, especially "carpinchos" skins, of which we had a good provision, and also the hide of a large ant-eater, found favour in his eyes.

* * *

We are full of enthusiasm. We smoke real tobacco, and, what is more important to the Grumblers, we have a provision of biscuit. Indeed, it is a singular thing to see how they crave for vegetable food. We tried to satisfy them with the inside, the marrow so to speak, of the dwarf palm-trees I spoke of in my last letter, which ('t is n't the letter I mean) is by no means to be despised. It tastes rather like turnip. But they would n't be satisfied with that. They imagined to put into the boiling pot heaps ot a large, ill-flavoured, bushy weed—a kind of Chaenopodium it seems to be—absolutely destitute of taste, but fortunately quite harmless. And they ate it with relish.

But now they acknowledge that biscuit is better. They have been seen to smile and even heard to laugh, whilst handling the furs of nutrias and carpinchos, or the feathers of garzas, with dreams, no doubt, of wealth to come. They are brimful of ardour. When the skipper said:

"Now I hope we are all agreed to push northwards as far as we can', the Otter-killer shouted: "En avant!" and Mr Fritz: "Vorwaerts!"

* * *

Our skipper made a bold attempt yesterday. He had long wanted to penetrate into the recesses of the dense 'monte', which is really a marvell of vegetation—too much of a marvel said the skipper afterwards—and, seeing one that was only a hundred and fifty to two hundred yards wide, he took the compass and said.

"Now I mean to see what it is made of inside. Surely there must be carpinchos and pecares. You wait for me on the other side. Come along, Jules!"

But Jules quietly squatted down on his tail, looking steadfastly at his master as if to say:

"If you'll believe me, I've tried that game before, and won't do it again. Don't you be a fool."

The skipper entered the forest alone, and soon was lost to sight. We went round the corner and waited.

We waited fully an hour, hearing nothing but the usual mysterious rustlings till, at last, our skipper emerged, slowly crawling on all fours. But he was a changed man, his clothes were torn, blood was spouting everywhere; and we could see that beneath the blood his face looked scared and pale.

Said kind Mr. Fritz: "Sit down, you look tired.

"I can't sit down just now, I must first extract the biggest....O! I am full of thorns, I am as prickly as ever was sea-urchin or "tuna."—Go and fetch the kettle and things, we'll have a "mate" and a pipe and rest a little...."

"Well. I've had a fright, and no mistake. I was n't long in that wood before I had to go on all fours, then to drag myself along on the ground. The ground!..by Josaphat! It's rather like a harrow turned upside down everywhere. I had to crawl over or under fallen trees. And everything is as full of prickles as a hedgehog. There are "caraguatas" in all parts, with their sharp spiny leaves, there are "Cereus", like candlesticks twelve feet high, and many another kinds of Cactus, and it's quite dark among the trees; I felt like a midge travelling inside a watch. And it is full of insects and spiders that perambulate over one. Sometimes I heard noises in the thicket, but confound it! I could'nt even lift my head to have a look, I was sure to knock it against some thorny thing. And when at last I thought I was nearly out of the wood and was about to halloo, what did I do but grasp at a kind of smooth brown-black thing hanging from a branch, I thought it was a blooming liana. But bless your hearts! It wasn't blooming at all. It scuttled away like an iguana when there are dogs about. It was an ampalagua, a boa. I don't know whether he was frightened, I know I was. By George! I couldn't even start backwards, nor pull out my knife or disentangle the Old Traveller before he was off. I bet you it interfered sadly with my digestion. I'm sure I wanted to cry a little, but as I hadn't room to sit down nor to take out my handkerchief, I gave it up. "No more forest travelling for me thankyou I'll be..unblessed if I try it again. You try it a little. I'll go by water."

The caragratá of which I have spoken several times, is a plant of the ananas family, a Bromelia, with small purple flowers growing on a fleshy expansion of the stalk. It is common in the "montes". Its numerous leaves surround a cavity which always contains pure water, a precious resource in the desert.

VI.

"Rich and rare are the goods in the store
And every day ther' coming more..."
The Metropole's Poet
"Standard" of the 21st Dec. 95.

O! Mr. Fritz! Mr. Fritz! You have much to answer for! I am glad you have eaten too many "tunas" this morning and feel unwell, for I hope it will make "you seriously reflect on the sinfulness of guttling and guzzling."

Thus speaks the skipper in a sad and stern voice, as, sitting in the rain before the fire, we are trying to dry ourselves, the vapour rising in thick clouds from our clothes and mingling with the smoke.

* * *

Yesterday the skipper announced, to cheer up the crew under the burning afternoon's sun, that, supposing his reckoning to be correct, we were but a few miles distant from Fortin Hernan Cortez.

There are several such forts along the Rio Salado—F. Aguará, F. Union, F. Hernan Cortez, F. Pizarro, F. Centinela' etc,—utterly deserted ruins, with hardly four crumbling walls left standing, half

hidden by the invading vegetation. F. Hernan Cortez is among the least decayed. We found in it a small bench which the Grumblers carried off in triumph, glorious to sit down again on a real seat, like gentlemen.

But these ancient strongholds have an interest of another kind for us. When they were built the soldiers surrounded them with hedges of the thorny cactus known as "tuna," as is customary to do in order to repel Indian attacks, and the fruit of these plants is a welcome change in our too nitrogenous daily fare.

Now Mr. Fritz holds this delicacy in high esteem, and when he heard that a short distance separated us from a spot where we should be likely to find a plantation of it, he warmly proposed to push on, although it was late and a storm was vidently brewing.

When we reached the fort darkness had set in, the storm had burst, and rain was pouring down in the style it affects in South America. While the crew was cutting up for supper a "gama" we had killed, the captain lit a fire with great difficulty, then, declaring he would go and fetch more wood, vanished and was seen no more. It was late in the night when, by the glare of the lightning, he was spotted out at the bottom of a ditch into which he had fallen, and where, ashamed to cry out, he had whiled away his time by clawing at the sides of the hole, fumbling darkly about in the mud and water at the bottom, and making a lamentable object of himself.

This is why his language is sad and impressive in the morning. We shall have to spend the day in drying ourselves, our furs and in fact almost everything on board.

* * *

This is not the first time—nor will it be the last—that I allude to our menu. I make no apology for it, for this hankering after questions gastronomical is noticeable in the writings of most tourists. It is in travel that man is reminded that he is of the flesh, fleshy, and that the soul's wings are apt to moult in such a way that he will surely prefer a fat 'mulita' or 'mataco' to....let us say an eloquent sermon or an amateur concert.

Besides, oh you who have partaken of strange dishes, who have eaten shark, or locusts, or crocodile's tail, did you not feel it your duty to inform your fellowmen of the fact, were it only to teach them what is good, and is not?

It is also an article of faith with travellers to draw a list of the victims they have slain on their way, without forgettin a single one (rather the contrary.) I shall not do so, but some animals here are characteristic, they are, so to speak a feature of the Salado, and I should not forgive myself attempting a description of that river without talking about them.

I have touched some words about nutrias and carpinchos....One word, but one only, about ducks and geese: As far as their numbers go, a collectioner would find himself wallowing in bliss here, so countless are their species. For the first fortnight, almost every duck we killed, and we killed many, belonged to a kind we had not seen before.

* * *

At every bend of the river mostly stands some melancholic heron, or garza, motionless, seemingly philosophising in deep and dreary meditation, but in reality keenly watching for some fish to pass within reach. It is not difficult to kill that bird, for whilst intent upon the doings of the canoa, it ponders whether it were not advisable to fly away, one of us, by a flank movement, comes unawares from the barranca and brings it down.

We vote that fowl deserves the honours of the pot, especially when boiled with rice.

The same may be said of a bird somewhat like a cormorant, the "maca". I do not know its real name, it belongs to the family of the Steganopoda, that is, the web of its feet unites not only the three anterior toes, but the whole four of them.

Wherever a branch of a tree extends close above the surface of the river, you may be sure to see three, four, five or more of these "macas" perched on it in a row, their up right black bodies immoveable, while they patiently watch the water below. They are an easy shot.

It is usual in England not to shoot a bird except on the wing, to give, they say, the poor fellow a chance. We have no such notions of chivalry or mockery, whichever you'll call it; we are like Cromwell in Ireland, we subordinate flimsy principles of honour to the welfare of the host.

Near lagunas often sounds the shriek of the "chara" (Chauna chavarria,) as large as a Turkey, with a song shriller and harsher than a peacock's, though less melodious. Each wing is provided with two sharp spurs, of which the Otterkiller made a painful experience, for, having wounded one of these birds, he innocently went to bag it, and was rewarded by a deep cut in the leg.

We don't like that fowl much. Strange to say, its flesh has exactly the colour and the taste of lean old cow. Such a bird, I am told, is tamed in the Western provinces and kept in the capacity of a sheepdog for poultry.

Shall I talk about flamingoes, ibis, "spatulas, ajajas, etc," or fishes or tortoises and their eggs, or 'mulitas' and "ma tacos, gamas", pecaris and ant-eaters?.... Surely you know of them as much as I do, gentlemen! and the STANDARD would think I were "meaandering" even more than does the Rio Salado itself.

As for the large lizard they call "iguana" (though it is not the true, green Brazilian iguana), we made a discovery. It is customary among 'gauchos' to eat only the tail of the animal. But one morning, as I had killed two of them "pour tout potage", I imagined to roast, or rather broil them entire. Since that day we disdain the tail and prefer a joint to it.

* * *

I have heard about ants, bees and wasps, who have brought up socialism to a pitch of perfection such as was never even dreamed of by the apostles of the faith. But I did not know that spiders lived in colonies. Yet they do. All along the shores of the river there are immense webs inhabited, each of them, by numerous spiders. When the weather is fair, each of these takes it appointed (?) station in the web and watches for mosquitoes, for which we are thankful. When they go to rest, they congregate, clutching at one another with all their legs so as to form an almost solid ball as big as the fist.

They are beautiful spiders, deep black, with white and scarlet markings.

Often, when we walk through the bush we carry over with us portions of colonies. But they are not resentful.

It would have been a treat to be with us to astronomer Lalande, who never saw a spider but he ate it with relish. Here he would have had many a full meal.

T. Chapuis.

OUR LIVE CATTLE TRADE.

Everyone seems astonished at the extraordinary development of our live cattle trade. People who are not very old still remember, when J. Hannah, Henry Harrat and James Sheridan were the only breeders of fine rams and sheep in the country, and as for fine cattle, there was really in those times no such thing known as a "rodeo" of 'mestizo' cows in the whole republic. We believe Mr. Leonardo Pereira, and Mr. José Martinez de Hoz were about the first to improve the breed of cows. Mr. Hannah paid no attention whatever to improving the breed of cattle; his whole attention being devoted to sheep.

The list of exports published in our columns every morning shows to what astounding magnitude the agricultural production of the country has grown. The boys that were shooting marbles around Mr. Christophersen's office in Calle Mayo when we claimed a free estancia for him for being the first to ship in one vessel 13,000 bags of wheat to Europe, have not yet grown to manhood, and who to-day in the Plate talks of the shipment of 13.000 bags of wheat? The truth of the matter is, our production has surpassed every estimate and very calculation, and now we note our live cattle shipments are following in the same wake. Down at the Madero Docks the busiest people are the carpenters, covering up fore and aft the steamers with pine corrals to carry the live-stock to Europe; one can judge by the work going on the importance of the trade and the number of animals being shipped, and the question naturally suggests itself, how long will the country be able to stand such a drain on its live-stock?

The best answer to this question we find in a "Boletin" published by Messrs. Lockwood and Co. called the "Boletin de Lawes," a really most useful publication, since it gives the names of all the principal sheep and cattle breeding estancias in the Plate, and their name is simply Legion. The following is this most interesting list:—

Lett, Richard E., Arroyo Corto, Lincolns. Durhams, Shire, etc;
Saavedra, L. C., Arrecifes, Loma Alta, do.
Merlo, Diego, do, El Carmen, do.
Morgan, Edward, do, San José, do.
Velez, Eduardo, do, Arroyo Burgos, do.
Somoza. L. M., do, Sarmiento do.
Saavedra, L. M., El Paraiso, do
Celman, Miguel Juarez, do La Eliza, do.
Ham, William, do, La Angelita, do.
Ham, Patricio, do, Santa Margarita, do.
Cavanagh, Edward, do, Pilar, do.
Stegman, Claudio, do, Tala, do.
Mullen, Michael, do, Sarmiento, do.
Arata; Luis, Ayacucho, Santo Domingo, do.
Bousom, Brothers, do, La Cuadrada, do.
Senillosa, Pedro, do, San Felipe, do.
Achaval. Domingo and Sons, do, San Laurano, do.
Basualdo, Ortiz Manuel, do, Las Armas, do.
Reyes, Cesar, Azul, La Josefa, do.
Frias, Estanislaus, do, San Gabriel, no.
Paz y Giribone, do, Santa Rosa, do.
Pere, Vicente. do, La Isabel, do.
Shaw, John and Sons, do, Las Marias, do.
Maitland, David S., do, La Escocia, do.
Pena, Brothers, do, Siempre Amigos, do.
Reyes, Cesar. do, La Margarita, do.
Gomez, Fortunato, do, La Narcisa, do.
Grant, C. M., do, Fortin Pereda, do.
Martinez de Hoz, F. Castelli, El Araza, do.
Guerrero, F., do. La Postrera, do.
Saubidet, S., Chacabuco, San Jose, do.
Perkins, E. B., do. La Esperanza, do.
Duggan Hnos; do. San Marcos, do.
Espartillar Estancia Cia., Chascomus, Espartillar, do.
Monasterio, A., do. Chis-Chis, do.
Vivot Narciso, do. El Retiro, do.
Elizalde and Sala, do. Santo Tomas, do.
Piñeyro, S. J. do. Bote, do.
Cameron, R., do. La Fé, do.
Sanchez J. J., Coronel Dorrego, La Sirena, do.
Buron, D., do. do. Indio Rico. do.
Galli, A., Coronel Pringles, divisorio San Lorenzo, do.
McCorquodale, do. Stermont, do.
Martinez de Hoz, F. A., do. La Juanita, do.
Piñeyro, P. J., Coronel Suarez, La Sofia, do.
Arthur, G. C., do. El Pescado, do.
Withing, M., do. Santa Rosa, do.
Robinson. J., do. La Esperanza, do.
Techera, C., do. El Huascar, do.
Gallastegui, do. Libertad, do.
Lopez Osornia, S., do. Las Grampas, do.
Hernandez, A. T., do. La Chinchilla, do.
Madariaga, J., do. Las Tunas, do.
Sansinena, A. L., Dolores, Dos Talas, do.
Belgrano, A. G., do. San Enrique, do.
Reddy, T., do. El Sermon, do.
Ganduglia and Parravicini, do. San Juan del Vecino, do.
Bell, J., Ensenada, Grande, do.
Linn S., Cruz, do. do.
Tormey, E., do. La Paterna, do.
Taurel, A. and R., do. Martin Fierro, do.
Dopazo E., G. Belgrano, Santa Maria and Santa Pascuala.
Ramirez, E. do, Chacabuco do
Giribone, J. C. do, La Invernado do.
Otamendi, J., Pueyrudon, Las dos Anitas, do.
Martinez de Hoz, M.H., do., Chapsadurat, do.
Brown, J. A., General Pinto, El Central, do.
Zalazar, R. Rodriguez, San Guillermo, do
Whelan, P., do., San Pedro, do.
Irigoyen, B., do., San Fermin, do.
Brown, J. A., Villegas, Marion, do.
Morgan, W., Giles, La Maria, do.
O'Donnell, R. M, do, San Antonio, do.
Thompson, F. P. y H., Guamini, El Romanso, do.
Lopez C., Juarez, Dos Marias, do.
Roldan, M., do, Sol Argentino, do.
Taniel, R., do., Santo Tomás, do.
Birdurq, J., do. San Hypolito, do.
Rocca, A.; Laprida, San Bartolomé, do.
Paz, J. M., Las Flores, La Graciela, do.
Bedacarraty, P., do., Loma Perico, do.
Calderon, M., do., San Roque, do.
Diaz, A. A., do., San Leon, do.
Ham, P., Las Heras, La Choza, do.
Lozamo Hms., do., Plomer, do.
Bosch, M. G., do., Boschenthal, do.
Calderon, M., Lincoln, Los Toldos, do.
Villar, E., do., San Antonio, do.
Paz, R. do., Tres Bonetes, do.
Etchels y Etchart, Loberia, La Josefina, do.
Otamendi, R., do., San José, do.
Lastra, E. y A., do., La Nueva Malacata, do.
Torres Hnos., do., La Golendrina, do.
Achával, P., do., La Floresta, do.
Luro, Hnos., do., San P. del Moro, do.
Otamendi, J. A. y R., do., Santa Ana, do.
Otamendi, Hnos., do., San Antonio, do.
Zarate, J., do., San José de Las Flores, do.
Pereda, Celedonio, Pehuajó, 13 Abril do.
Taurel, A. y R. do, Destino, do.
Iturraspe, Bros, do, Dos Hermanos, do.
Torres, Urbano, Pergamino, Santa Maria, do.
Echague, M., do, El Socorro, do.
Ocampo, Bros, do, Cepeda, do.
Mooney, William, do, El Recreo. do.
Roth and Co, do Santa Ana, do.
Harrington, Joseph, do, Retiro, do.
Martin, Tim, do, Bajo Hondo, do.
Harrington, J. E., do. Guerrico, do.
Kinsella, Michael, do, Estancia, do.
Anchorena, Mercedes, Pila, La Josefina do.
Senillosa, Felipe, do, El Venado, do.
Etchegoyen, J., Pilar, Sta. Ana, do.
Langon, A., Puan, La Rioja, do.
Lecube, Lopez, do, San Ramon, do.
Boote, J. B., do, El Inca, do.
Barros, M. G., do, Carmen, do.
Vela, F. F., Rauch, Argentina, do.
Elizalde, y Sala, do. La Diana, do.
Vela, Pedro J., do, Carmencita, do.
Carril, B., Rojas, Sol de Mayo, do.
Cano, Robt, do, San Jose, do.
Duggan, Bros., do, El Pelado, do.
Hughes, John aud Sons, do, La Vigia do.
Alvear, A. T., do, San Jacinto, do.
Duffy, Bros, do. Colon, do.
Coelho, Alex., Saavedra, Josefina, do.
Ortega, J. M., Saladillo, Dos Amigos, do.
Berdier, J. J., Salto, La Paloma, do.
Dorrego, Heirs, do, La Salada, do.
Duggan, Bros, do, Santa Rosa, do.
Cobo, Juan, Lujan, Esperanza, do.
Browne, J. P., Lujan, La Choza, do.
Mendez, P., Lujan, Santa Clara, do.
Cañas, J. M., Lujan, Balta, do.
Thompson, Henry, Magdalena, Primera, do.
Pineiro, J. P., Magdalena, La Petrona, do.
Otamendi, A. D., Magdalena, El Nacional, do.
Miguens, J. P., Magdalena, San Felipe, do.
Pineiro, F. R., Magdalena, Rincon Noario, do.
Otamendi, J. A., Maipu, San Luis, do.
Basualdo M. Ortiz, Maipu, Las Armas, do.
Sierra, G. F., Maipu, Esperanza, do.
Ezeyza, Nicanor, Mar Chiquita, Loma Rica, do.
Brunkhorst, Bros., Marcos Paz, Rivadavia, do.
Bosch General, Marcos Paz, Laura, do.
Fages, J. L., Mercedes, Rural, do.
Frias, Domingo and Co., Mercedes, Santa Catalina, do.
Saubidet, Pedro, Mercedes, San Antonio, do.
Schoo, Domingo, Monte, Sta Teresa, do.
Macdonald, John, Monte, Santa Inez, do.
Terrero y Lanus, Monte, Los Cerrillos, do.
Peña, Rodolfo, Monte, San Genaro, do.
Hansen, C. S., Navarro, La Pepita, do.
Cardenas, P., Necochea, La Adela, do.
Canal, Victoria, Necochea, San Cayetano, do.
Pacheco, Lopez, Necochea, Sta Clara, do.
Abasolo, José, Necochea, Quequen Grande, do.
Langley, H. W., Nueve de Julio, La Dorita, do.
Perry, Gardner B., Nueve de Julio, Norumbega, do.
Fortabat, L., Olavarria, Blanca Chica, do.
Pourtalé, Olavarria, La Tigra, do.
Cardenas, Eustaquio, Olavarria, La Carolina, do.
Rocca, A., Olavarria, San Bartolome, do.
Taurel, R., Pampa Central, Recado, do.
Wright, Hugh, Bahia Blanca, Las Lagunitas, do.
Otero Ramos, Ignacio, Balcarce, La Emilia.
Elizalde y Sala, do, La Brava.
Baudrix Diego, do, La Brava.
Errecaborde, Martin, do, Martin Garcia.
Bosch, Enrique, do, El Rosario, do.
Bell, Jorge, do, La Favorita, do.
Aguirre y Kelly, do, La Chata, do.
Peña, J. G., do, La Fortuna.
Newton, E. Cipriano, do, El Verano, do.
Brennan, Miguel, Baradero, Sol de Mayo, do.
Lopez Seco, Francisco, Brandzen, Del Rosario, do.
Riel, Patricio, Campana, San Juan, do.
La Campana, Estancia Co., Cañuelas, La Campana, do.
Lynch, Manuel, Carmen de Areco, La Inca, do.
O'Connell, Daniel, do, El Ombú, do.
Duffy, Felipe, do, San Juan, do.
G. de Donoer, Julia, do, Santa Julia, do.
Lynch, Manuel, do, San Antonio, do.
Basabilbaso, Rufino, do, La Fernanda, do.
Duggan, Hermanos, do, La Nueva Caledonia, do.
Martinez, Domingo, do, El Porvenir.
Otamendi, Roman, San Vicente, Las Violetas, do.
Castillo, Eleodoro del, do, Santa Maria, do.
Peña, J. G., Tandil, La Merced, do.
Garcia, Agustin, do, San Pascual, do.
Bell, Jorge, do, La Pacifica, do.
Cranwell, Ricardo, Tapalque, La Aurora, do.
Peña, J. G., do, La Adela, do.
Bellocq, viuda, Tomás é hijo, 3 Arroyos, Santa Graciana, do.
Buron, Martin, do, Rosa del Sud, do.
Lopez Pacheco, Ciriaco, do, El Medano, do.
Mendez, Jose Maria, do, La Polonia, do.
Abasolo, Jose, Tuyú, San Rafael, do.
Rodriguez Ponce, Florencio, Vecino, Palenque Grande, do.
Chapar, Maria, do, La Union, do.
Keen, Enrique, 25 de Mayo, Britos, do.
Aguerre, Domingo, do, Santa Isabel, do.
Davil, Marcelino, do, El Carmen, do.
Moras, José é hijo, do, Las Claras, do.
Bolar, Domingo, Viedma, San Jose del Hinojal, do.

VARIOUS.

Funes, Domingo, do.
Benitez, Juan, do., La California, do.
Barrera, Luis, do., Bella Vista, do.
Minvielle, Hermanos Cia., do., La Fortuna, do.
Ledesma y Casas, do., El Bagual, do.
Stevens y Whiting, Richards, do., La Guampita, do.
Lett, Ricardo, do., La Escondita, do.
Acosta, Bernardino, San Antonio Areco, Rosario, do.
Whelan, Peter, do., Josefina, do.
Castex, Mariano, do., Flamenco, do.
Guiraldes, M., do., La Porteña, do.
Ganiza, M., do., Estancia, do.
O'Neill, Paul, do, do., do.
Maguire, John, do., San Patricio, do.
Mooney, Mary, do., El Paraiso, do.
Duggan, John, do., Santa Rita, do.
Castex, F., do., La Grande, do.
Altolaguirre, J. M., San Nicolas, Idrazabal, do.
Harrington, John, San Pedro, La Celestina, do.
Salas, Tomas, do., Ojo de Agua, do.
Austin, Mrs., do., Santa Clara, do.
Uballes, J., do., San Bruno, do.
Rath, Frank, do., Bella Vista, do.
Frers, E., do., La Estrella, do.
Casey, E., do., Estancia, do.
Villanueva, F. V., Lobos, El Bañadero, do.
Carril, J. D., do., La Porteña, do.
Justa, A. M., do., El 19, do.
Llamon Hnos., do., El Mirador, do.

ROSARIO.

THE DREDGING OF OUR PORT.

OUR MAYOR VERSUS LIGHT.

OUR CROPS.

"FIN DE SIECLE" METHOD WITH DEBTORS.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

January 16th.

"Lo barato cuesta caro" is a very true saying, and it may be applied, constituting the word cheap for 'inservible,' to the dredges, which, after so much petitioning and so such unaccountable delays, the National Government was so kind as to send us to prevent our port from being definitely blocked up.

The dredges arrived, the installation of the service took place, and some hundreds of cubic metres of sand were transferred from the bottom of the river to the "playa," and we all felt happy at the prospect of again seeing our port unobstructed and in a condition of fulfilling the requirements for which nature has adapted it.

I must say that from the beginning I had my doubts as to the proper execution of the work, considering the parsimoniousness with which Government provided the elements, and these doubts are likely to be turned into certainties before long, as the dredges are old and patched up and they can hardly bear the stress of work they are supposed to accomplish. An old fiddle, it is said, is apt to bring forth a good tune, but I'll be blessed if an old dredger can bring up the mud and sand from our river channels in anything like the quantity required to make the work effective.

There they are, the two beauties, quietly anchored on our river, because for some reason or other they cannot work except at a given depth of water, and they certainly do not look to be the sort of agents we require for cleaning our river, but more so as old veterans of the service who should be sent to the "cuerpo de invalidos" with a pension.

M. Bonnemaison, the directing engineer, is quite competent enough to carry out the work properly and in an effective manner, but of course this cannot be done unless he has at his command the necessary elements, and these of good, sound material.

As I have said before, not once but pretty often, the long delay to which, by indifference or other causes, the dredging of our port has been subjected to his mode of an enterprise, which had it been attended to in time, would have been as child's play, a serious operation to-day, and which daily becomes all the more so. The work must be tackled with a will, and with sufficient and reliable elements in order to complete it in a satisfactory manner. Meanwhile, and at the present rate, we are not likely to advance much towards the desired object. Let M. Bonnemaison be provided with a first-class dredging train and other necessary material, because otherwise, "lo barato va á salir caro", and it will be like digging a hole in order to fill one alongside of it with our port work. The National Government ought to bear in mind that this port of ours contributes towards the country's revenue with no less than an average of six millions of dollars per annum.

* * *

All our suburb inhabitants are loudly clamouring for light—any light from incandescent to a tallow candle, but light of some kind they must have, and they are right. Our good Mayor, (God bless him!) hears the cry of course—more, he knows the justice of it, yet the light is not provided, to the undisguised delight of night birds of all hues and plumage, and to the disgust and annoyance of the peaceful inhabitants. Probably our "Intendente" thinks the matter too trivial for his high consideration, or else he must have signed a treaty of alliance with the Rosario agents and proselytes of the planet Mercury, who at this rate will be honoured by us as it already is in San Diego, as a patron and tutelary deity. Now then "Señor Intendente" of our good city of Rosario, and joking apart,—condescend to exert your endeavours towards the fulfilment of your duty by attending, amongst many others, the just demands of a good number of its inhabitants, and give them not the right to question the truth about the present one being "el siglo de las luces".

* * *

The rain we had three or four days ago, and the murky and threatening weather we are still having is doing further damage to the crops—and although opinions are contradictory as to what this will eventually prove, I believe optimists are a good way from being right. What with the hail, the locusts and the rainy season we are having, the Santa Fé crops will not prove A 1 this harvest either in quality or quantity.

* * *

A worthy disciple of St. Crispin in our city has discovered a new and "fin de siecle" method of dealing with his morose debtors. A dandified young fellow having by some means or other got from him a pair of boots "on tick," started on the "vuelva mañana" system of payment, which course eventually exhausting the patience of the man of boots, he and one his assistants awaited their opportunity, and one fine day not long ago, the unsuspecting victim fell into the arms of the bootmaker's man, who quickly floored him, while his "patron" took the young fellow's boots off in the open street and marched back in triumph with them into his shop!

I trust that such extreme measures are not to become "a la moda" either with bootmakers or tailors in these light packet times, when even that hard hearted man, Jaybrownterms cash—Gracious me! what a horrid name for a tailor!—has, I doubt not, to stretch a point, "de cuando en cuando." Let not Mr. J. B. T. C. imagine for an instant that I thus advertise him gratis, with any dark and ulterior designs upon him. It would be a case of "Honi soit qui mal y pense" as, thank Providence, I have a flash and humane tailor in Buenos Aires, who has a soft spot in his heart towards his impecunious debtors and is content to wait philosophically for better times to come.

Leo.

THE GERMAN FETE.

January 19th

For the second time in the last few months the beautiful gardens of the Pabellon Argentino, overlooking the mighty expanse of the Plate, were last night the scene of a German patriotic festival. Last April our German friends feted the Bismarck birth-day, last night the 25th anniversary of the Proclamation of the German Empire in the Versailles Palace in 1871. The whole German colony turned out in full force in true democratic fashion, and the assemblage of well-dressed women and men was one that might make any nationality proud. In the gait and carriage of the men one could detect the Freiwillige Einjährige training, blended with the courtly urbanity that is diffused in a River Plate ambient. At eight o'clock the aspect of the gardens was delightful; it looked like a peep into fairyland—a dazzling array of fair women and men, of lights and colors, a sparkling scene of pleasure and enthusiam—one of those gatherings for which the German residents are famous in our social record.

All the arrangements were perfect. The best taste was displayed in the decorations and illuminations, and the delightful balmy evening, refreshed by breezes from the river, helped to complete the work of the Committee, who deserve much credit, viz.:—A, Altgelt, President; C. Nordmann, vice-President; O Beines and O. Straube, secretaries; F. du Vinage and J. Aretz, treasurers; H. Altgelt, E. W. Bussmann, R. Bosenberg, O. Eilenberger, A. Feistel, F. Fritzsch, F. Fessel, J. W. Heinlein, E. O. Hoelle, R. Heinrichs, R. Oltmann, E. Kahn, R. Hauffmann, Herm. Tjarks, J. Wolff, A. Wipperling. The efforts of this Committee were the subject of general praise, and were crowned with the greatest success. It was a pity that at half past eight the storm marred the feast and the crowd had to adjourn to the Pabellon Building, but this did not spoil the fun and the programme was carried through. The speech on the Kaiser and the Fest. These were features of the evening, but the speech on Argentiaa was the great event of the night. In view of the approaching storm the fire-works came off at half-past eight. Some slight changes in the programme, the overture of Lohengrin being performed after the Kaiser Rede. Dr. Julius Woolff made a splendid Fest Rede, and we regret that we cannot dwell on it at length.

Mr. Ad. Altgelt, President of the Committee, delivered a lengthy and eloquent speech on the Argentine Republic. Every sentence in his long address breathed a fervor, a pride, and a love of Argentina, that electrified the audience, especially in the peroration. He sketched the growth of Buenos Ayres and of the Republic from the days of Rosas, the growth of population, of trade, of railways, of wealth, of architecture—in fact, of every phase in the evolution of a civilized country. He praised the Argentine's character and his boundless hospitality. In his peroration, with great felicity, he drew a delicate picture of the Argentine woman as wife and as mother, and wound up with her most characteristic virtue—Charity, which was so ingrained in the people that he might well say that Argentines are the most charitable nation on this sphere.

The Kaiserlied and Wacht Am Rhein brought the First Part of the programme to an end. The fire-works that followed were an enlivening feature of the feast and were very effective. The concert was, as might be expected, superb and the selections congenial to the surroundings. The Music was in charge of Mr. Robert Oltmann and the caterer was Mine Host Carl Aue—no commentary necessary. The entertainment was splendid and will be long remembered in Buenos Ayres. General Roca could not attend, but sent a polite note to excuse his absence. The General, as our German friends know, was a personal friend of the old Kaiser and is a great admirer of Prince Bismarck, with whom he corresponds frequently.

THE FRENCH MAILS.

London, Dec. 21

An entire revulsion of feeling on the subject of Mr. Cleveland's Message to Congress was brought about in New York yesterday by the panic which prevailed in Wall Street. The falling of values and the failure of brokerage houses quickly turned the current of opinion against the President, who, our Correspondent says, within three days has been the most popular and the most unpopular man in the country. Predictions are being made, in view of the wholesale return of American securities from Europe, and the prospective depletion of the Treasury reserve, that the country will within a few weeks be driven to adopt a silver standard, although it is generally believed that Congress would intervene in time to avert this contingency. The scenes on the Stock Exchange described in the telegrams from New York recall those of the War time, and of other noted panics of history.

A telegram from Cape Coast Castle says that ten thousand loads have been sent to the front since the arrival of the Bathurst. The remainder of the West India Regiment landed from the Loanda yesterday and started for Mansu. Twenty men of the regiment are ill, and four white soldiers are on the sick list. The Koranza King has promised to assist the British.

The North German Lloyd Company's mail steamer Spree still remains fast on the Warden Ledge, off the Needles, where she became fixed on Thursday morning, all efforts to drag her from that position by means of tugs having proved futile. Steps will now be taken to lighten her as much as possible by shifting the cargo, in the hope that she will float on a high tide.

Application was made in a Queen's Bench Divisional Court yesterday by Mr. Ruegg, Q. C., on behalf of Jabez Spencer Balfour, for a rule nisi against the Crown, to show cause why judgment should not be entered for the prisoner, or a new trial ordered in the indictment with respect to the Whitehall Court estates, on which sentence of seven years' penal servitude was passed. After hearing the arguments, Justices Wills and Wright granted the rule on the point whether there was sufficient evidence to support the conviction.

Alfred Chipperfield, the survivor of the tragedy in a cab at Islington on Wednesday night, is making good progress towards recovery at St. Bartholomew's Hospital. Few further particulars of importance have been gathered as to the motive for the double crime.

Alexander Sarti, who was indicted at the County of London Sessions, Clerkenwell, for being concerned in the robbery of silver ingots from the Midland Railway Company, was yesterday found guilty, and he afterwards pleaded guilty to charges of embezzlement from his employers, Messrs. Elkington and Co. Sir Peter Edlin, remarking that it was a bad case, sentenced the prisoner to three years and six months' penal servitude.

According to the little book published the other day by Messrs. Phelp and Son about "British Guiana and its resources," the gold produce of the colony has made marvellous progress since 1884. In that year it was only 250 ounces; in 1887 it was nearly 11,000 ounces; in 1891-2 it had reached over 110,000 ounces; in 1893 it was nearly 139,060 ounces. The total yield of gold from 1884 to 1894 was 631,746 ounces.

Last night's *London Gazette* contains the formal annonncements of her Majesty's consentin Council to the contracts of matrimony between Princess Maud and Prince Charles of Denmark and between the Princess Alexandra of Edinburgh and the Hereditary Prince Ernest of Hohenloffe-Langenbourg.

Reuter's Agency is informed that according to the latest mail advices from Caracas there is steadily increasing anti-English feeling throughout the country. A Society for Territorial Defence has been established with numerous branches, and enthusiastic meetings have been held. At Cabello, at the close of one of these meetings, the people ran into the streets shouting "Down with the English." An Englishman resident for many years in Venezuela who has lately returned to England, has communicated to a representative of Reuter's Agency his views on the present situation. He expressed his conviction that the attitude of the United States regarding the Venezuelan boundary is influenced by the fact that Americans hold very large concessions of territory in the delta of the Orinoco, part of these concessions being in the disputed territory He added that for years past there had been strong competition in Caracas and other towns between British and American commerce, the former of which had always had the firmer hold in Venezuela.

ITALY IN AFRICA.

The news published by the London *Times* with regard to the probable capitulation of Makalle garrison has created a sensation all over Europe, but it is asserted that the news is only a mere rumour.

The scarcity of news from General Baratieri is put down to the fact that the General wants to work in silence, and not disturb his plan of campaign by letting the whole world know what he intends to do.

It is also asserted that General Baratieri has divided his army into three columns; one under the command of General Arimondi and the second under Colonel Albertone, whilst he will take command of the third. The three columns have already started from Adigrat and are marching on Makalle (it is high time Colonel Galliano were relieved, as he cannot hold out much longer) General Baratieri abandoning, we may say, Col. Galliano and exposing him to 70,000 of Menelik's men is a very ticklish and anything but prudent stroke of generalship on his part, as the Italian troops might suffer a repetition of the Amba Alagi disaster. However, the Italian Government and the Italian people have great faith in General's Baratieri. It is known that the General intention is to gradually surround the enemy and force him to give in.

Emperor William has sent King Humbert an autograph letter expressing his great admiration for the bravery displayed by the Italian troops in Abyssinia.

THE ASHANTEE WAR.

The following news about Ashantee may interest many of our readers, as there can be little doubt that the whole Ashantee country will be annexed to Cape Coast Castle, and thus a new British territory formed in Africa:

"The Ashantee nation are a high-spirited, brave and intelligent race of negroes, very superior to those along the coast. Both men and women, though as black as any other negroes, are handsomely shaped—often with features of classical regularity, aquiline noses or Grecian foreheads. Persons of the higher classes are very cleanly in their habits, bathing every day and washing themselves with warm water and soap. They sometimes ornament their faces with delicate patterns in green or white paint drawn on the cheeks or temples. The ordinary dress is a simple tunic of some coloured cloth or silk manufactured in the native looms; gold ornaments of various designs are worn and strings of aggry beads which are made of a pebble like agate or cornelian, much ptized in this country.

The head-gear of military officers in full uniform is adorned with a pair of ram's horns, or a bunch of long feathers.

Their houses are commonly built of "swish," or plastered clay put between two frames of stakes and wattles, set apart for the thickness of the wall; the wattles are left on each side embedded in the clay and the wall is very durable. Each end of the house is gabled with three poles set in a triangular position, supporting at the apex from end to end the horizontal ridge-pole upon which is laid the roof sloping to each side; this consists of a thatch of palm leaves on a bamboo framework. The floor, raised several steps, is of stone or hardened

clay, and is daily washed and coloured with a pigment of red ochre. The wooden doors, door-posts and lintels, ingeniously carved for decoration, and curious geometrical patterns, are stamped in the plaster in the internal walls; painting and even gilding are also used to ornament the houses of the rich and noble. The King has a stone built house of several apartments erected by Sai Tootoo Quamina, but this is not his usual residence. The Ashantee carpenters, blacksmiths, goldsmiths potters, weavers, dyers and tanners were less skilful than the artisans of Dagwumba and the Houssas, but they have improved by the example of foreign workmen, more especially of the Mohammedans, who come from Soudan as traders or settlers at Coomassie. Specimens of the native manufacture are to be seen in the British Museum. The food of the richer class of people is usually soup made of beef or mutton, fish or fowl, and ground nuts stewed in the blood of sheep, or ox, or calf, with yams and plantains and roasted corn. The poor people will eat monkey's flesh or make their meal of a piece of dried venison, with palm oil. They drink palm wine both fresh and sour and a kind of beer made from dried corn. But there is a peculiar superstition by which many families are prohibited the use of certain meats, so that one may eat no beef while another must not touch pork, mutton or chicken. In like manner many families observe as sacred particular days of the week, the Tuesday or the Saturday for instance; or they are forbidden to wear clothes of a certain colour. These hereditary traditions cause much diversity of manners among the people. They are fond of dancing, mimicry, narrative speeches and songs, also of music. Among their instruments, are the sanko a kind of guitar; the bentwa harp held between the teeth and twanged with a short rod; a rude sort of violin played with a bow; their ivory horns formed of elephants tusks pierced with holes for the graduated notes; their drums of hollowed wood having a skin fixed across the open top; and several other instruments besides gongs and castanets to make an extra noise. The tuneful flourishes upon the horns are known to be associated with the chanting of particular sentences or phrases to the same tune. They serve in this way for signals and orders, or to proclaim the titles and prerogatives of the King and the Princes or great nobles of Ashantee.

THE IRISH CONVENT.

Convent of our L. of Mercy,
Tucuman 1305.
January 12, 1896.

Dear STANDARD.

You must indeed think me more than ungrateful, in not having sent you a word of thanks for 277 dollars account for publications. We made a grateful acknowledment of it in the monthly account of Orphanage expense, and sent it as usual to Mr. Ham for publication, but to our great dissatisfaction it has not appeared in any of our papers this week.

I hope you will kindly excuse and remember it happened through mistake.

Believe me to be
Yours gratefully in J. C.,
S. M. Stanislaus.

QUERY.

12th January. 1896.

Dear STANDARD.

Will you allow me to ask through your columns whether any subscriber can give me information relative to the Colony named San "Rafael" situated in the Province of Santiago del Estero, adjoining that of Santa Fé. The Colony was founded as far back as 1876 and occupied four leagues, then the property of Don Ricardo Hasse, in a place known as Chaco Chico. Should any of your readers be able to give me any information as to the present state of that Colony and how to reach it from Santa Fé, I should be extremely grateful.

Yours faithfully,
Colonist.

RAILWAY ITEMS.

TRAFFIC RETURNS.

Buenos Aires and Rosario Railway for the week ended Jan. 11th :—

	1896	1895	Increase
Miles open...	911	911	—
Rects. of week.	£12444	£12067	£376
Do. per mile..	£13.13.2	£13.4.11	£0.8.3 Decrease
From 1st Jan.	£17403	£19183	£1779

The Public Works Board has advised Government to authorise the Catalinas Company to lay another junction from its deposits with the line that goes to the South Darsena.

The Engineers Department has recommended the Government to authorize the Entre Rios Railways Company to erect a shed for goods in the port of Gualeguay. The Department has also submitted for the approbation of the Government the plans of the Southern of Santa Fé and Cordoba Company for the works to be carried out at Villa Constitucion.

The Executive has consented to permit the establishment of a station on the Andine line at kilometre 18 between Dalmacio Velez and Villa Maria, the neighbours having undertaken to provide the necessary land and building material, and also to pay the staff employed at the new station.

Is n't old John Bull preparing to lick somebody? "You bet," as our cousins in the North say. According to the official figures of the Admiralty there were building for the British Navy on the 1st of November, 1895; 49 vessels of various sizes and designs, including the armoured battleships Cæsar, Hannibal, Illustrious, Jupiter and Mars of 16 guns and 14900 tons each, the Powerful of 14 guns, 14200 tons, 25000 horse power, 12 cruisers of 2135 to 5750 tons each, and 30 torpedo-boat destroyers of 3200 to 6000 horse power. Now add the ten new cruisers ordered a few days ago, and we can see that matters are looking unpleasant for any Power or Powers that harbour the perilous thought of interfering with Britannia's sway on the Ocean wave.

News of the Week.

TUESDAY

The week opened tenderly yesterday as far as the news from played-out Europe was concerned. The noble Cecil who rules the British empire has smoothed his wrinkled front and agreed to arbitration on the Venezuelan question. Not only this, but he is thinking of recognizing the independence of the Boers, if they will give the Nitlanders the rights they ask for. But the greatest surprise of all is the rumour of an "entente cordiale" between England, France and Russia. Perhaps this is the reason why the tone in Berlin towards England has suddenly been lowered several pegs. "Men are but children of a larger growth" said a well and rather favourably known bard. It would appear so, when we see, after all the ruction for the past ten days, the Great Powers of the earth kissing and "making up,' like a lot of girls who had been screaming and saying unpleasant things to each other. As a set-off to the good news of peace and good will, the tearful intelligence comes of the death of Joao de Deus (John of God.) "Who was John?" you ask. As Satan said to the Angel, "Not to know John argues yourself unknown." John was a Portuguese poet.

The Oropesa's mail just in has flooded us with letters, communications, etc: Mr. Willie Wilson's speech at the meeting of the Argentine North Eestern Railway, Sir J. Russell's speech at the meeting of the Argentine Great Western, and the Hon. Sir Arthur Forwood's great speech in Winchester House on the Cordova and Rosario Railway; but if our paper was double its size it would not be able for all the copy pouring in on our editorial table from all parts.

From Sucre, Bolivia, we received a note yesterday asking us to publish Mitre's translation of Horaces celebrated Ode "Integer Vitae." At the first spare moment we shall comply and give our friend's translation alongside that of the General.

Another awful crime is reported at Ricardone Colony in Santa-Fé victim Mr. Fermin Mares, an employee of the Juzgado. While he was taking to prison a drunken ruffian who was creating a disturbance in an "almacen", the latter sprang on him unawares and plunged a big knife through his heart, killing him on the spot. The murderer then walked coolly out of the town, not a man in it having the courage to make even an attempt to arrest him.

We much regret to say that a cablegram from England announces the death of Mr. Humphrey Chamberlain, so well known in railway circles in Montevideo, and who had so many friends on both sides of the Plate.

The stevedores' strike burst up yesterday, after holding on for thirteen days. Nearly all the men have returned to work at their old wages.

A subscriber who is enjoyning himself at Necochea reports the hotels there as full as sardine boxes or an uncorked bottle of champagne. Everybody as jolly as possible, and lots of innocent amusement every day. Some of the visitors bathe half a dozen times a day—a very very bad thing for them. Next week there is to be a grand Kermesse. Amongst the families sojourning there are those of Dr. O'Farrell, Simons, E. O. Farrell, Udaonda, Israel, Huergo, Bollini and quite too many others to mention.

The great news yesterday came from the far West. It was rumoured that Mr. Guerrero had thrown up the Chilian Foreign Office, why is not known. Then there was news of a terrific cyclone in the Argentine Scotland, San Juan that played Old Nick with half the province.

A letter from the *Australasian Pastoralist Review*, Melbourne, for Mr. A. M. Bourne, is lying at the offices of the Havas Agency, 186 Reconquista.

A regular meeting of the Buenos Aires Base Ball Club will be held this evening at 8.30 in the Club room, *Herald* building. A large attendance is requested.

Lecoq, the composer of the famous opera, "La Fille de Madame Angot", has just been divorced from his wife, after twenty years of connubial life, which was not quite so harmonious as his catching and fetching operas.

The Health Exhibition is about to close in a few days. In itself it is of much interest to doctors, nurses, and perhaps undertakers; but the general public have given it the cold shoulder ever since it opened. Surgical instruments, ambulances, false legs and arms, bandages, medicines etc. form a lugubrious "memento mori", for which our gay and rattle-pated population have no stomach. The only things wanting to make the depressing show complete are a few prize coffins.

People are getting so clean sick of racing, cricket and tea, Lawn Tennis, Golf, ball-playing, Base Ball, etc., etc., that some new form of amusement is as long-felt a want as another thoroughly good English newspaper in this city. While scanning an exchange yesterday we came across the following paragraph, and see no reason why the olden time sport referred to should not be introduced here, where the river swarms with fish, big and little:—"Lords and ladies in the olden time used to invent queer kinds of amusement. They were always on the look-out for some novelty, and perhaps they succeeded in adding freshness to their pursuit of pleasure when they resorted to fishing by means of geese. A line with baited hook having been fastened to its leg, the goose was placed in the water, the lords and ladies gay following in a boat to watch the sport. If a pike caught bait, there was sport indeed, a regular battle royal between bird and fish. During all the splashings and wheelings and flounderings, the spectators gave vent to their feelings in cheers and handkerchief waving and hand-clappings. The goose was usually victor, and ended the struggle by conveying its prisoner ashore. The Lake of Menteith, in the South-West of Perthshire, was often the scene of such angling matches".

WEDNESDAY

Affairs in general were quite nice and quiet yesterday in Europe, Asia, Africa, and America, and there were no further telegrams from the Mountains of the Moon, which a good many people regretted, as moonshine is always popular in this country, both in its real and metaphorical sense. (By the way; there was a new moon yesterday evening, and people rushed to get their hair cut). The best news from old Europe is of a probable alliance between the British Lion, the Russian Bear and Gallic Cock. If this be formed, the other Triple Alliance may as well retire from business at once. John and Jonathan are now the best friends in the world again, and are "liquoring" together after their recent tiff, exactly as we predicted a month ago.

There appears to be no truth in the rumour that Sr. Guerrero, ex-Minister of Chile in Argentina, refuses to enter the Cabinet in Santiago as Minister of Foreign Affairs. In high political circles there is much comment over the coincidence that a grand official banquet should be offered to Sr. Barros Arana, the Limits Commissioner, at the very moment that Sr. Guerrero enters the Chilian Cabinet. It is an open secret that the New Chilian Minister of Foreign Affairs does not agree with the exalted "Divortia Aquarum" views of Sr. Barros Arana.

The Argentine squadron, sighted off Bahia Blanca by the transport Villarino, should have arrived at the bleak and silent shores of New Bay on Monday and will remain there till end of February. The smalt steamer La Prensa, with Commander Nunes and Captain Mulhall on board, on her return from Cape Horn, will meet the expeditionary fleet in that Bay. Colonel Garcia, Chief of the Staff, will join the squadron also in those waters in February. It will be a regular trysting-place.

It seems that Bechualand, which was discovered by Major Richard who years ago was in this country, has now been annexed by the Cape of Good Hope Government. Rickard made a fortune in the business. We have received a paper about it, and the terrible state of things there. The Great King there is called Khama. We shall give all particuiars about the shocking state of things there in a few days.

The War Office has issued orders for forty thousand uniforms for the National Guards next March. These uniforms are to be made of cloth, and it is probable that the brin uniforms of last year will be washed and disinfected and sent up for the Guards in the Northern provinces where the winter is not as keen as down here. About eighty thousand uniforms will be ready for the Guards and 20 years old army recruits by the time drilling begins as ordered by law. All this looks like business.

It is understood that the naval engineer Luiggi, engaged by the Argentine Government, will be here before the middle of February, and that immediately after his arrival he will leave in a war-vessel to survey the whole coast from the mouth of the river to Chubut, to select the best site for a port for the Argentine Navy. This implies some doubts in head-quarters as to Bahia Blanca being the best site for such an important enterprise as a port and arsenal.

Argentina is making quite a name in the military world. The Argentine Mauser is doing more "merveilles" in Cuba on the dusky rebels thnn even unfortunate Napoleon the Third's once famous Chassepots did on the enemies of Imperial France; and now it is announced that mountain bridges of the Argentine model were tried last month in France at the camp at Chalous with the most brilliant success, in presence of a crowd of officers of all nations, including thirty French Generals. Bravo! Argentina.

Some of our colleagues are paying the Lord Mayor anything but compliments for allowing a "pulperia" to be opened at the very gates of the Chacarita Cemetery. Grief is thirsty, no doubt; but his lordship should have stipulated for a tolerably decent café or restaurant.

A report recently reached the ears of the War-office that the work on the new iron-clad Garibaldi, bought by the Argentine Government, was being wofully scamped. Orders have consequently been transmitted to Colonel Rivadavia, head of the commission now in Italy to supervise the building of the vessel, to immediately investigate whether there be any foundation for such a disagreeable and incredible rumour. Should, however, the chargos made, prove calumnious, the gallant Colonel has been ordered to court-martial the offender if he wear the Argentine uniform.

A well known thief was yesterday being taken to prison along the Paseo de Julio. Objecting to lose his liberty the man drew his knife and defied the vigilante who, instead of drawing his hanger, also produced a "facon." A duel then ensued in which the thief got the worse, but the policeman is to be tried for his "gauchada" in peferring his "facon" to the official weapon.

Honest Joe has scored again. With a wink that almost shattered his eyeglass, he yesterday indited a wire to the Cape, ordering cousin Jonathan to be carefully looked after in the Transvaal. Talk about coals of fire—why the orchid-boy just does know how to pile them on—and a very pretty move it is. Joe we embrace you—in our heart of hearts.

We are asked to intimate to those ladies and gentlemen, who have kindly consented to assist the choir of St. Andrew's Scotch Church in the production of the cantata of the "The Virgins," that the rehearsals will be suspended during the hot weather. Due notice will be given of the resumption of the meetings.

Messrs. Mudd and Co. the well known coal contractors, have been looking for a coaling station for the Government, and have nt length fixed upon the Bay of San Blas, where there is plenty of deep water. Their opinion is, that it is the safest place on the whole of the coast for such a purpose, and in the event of a war, with very little prearation, it could be made almost impregnable.

Anybody that wants to read a very jocular maritime experience should pay the E. B. E. a visit and get Captain Slocum's trip from the States to Brazil in the once famous Destroyer, the boat that came out with the famous dynamite gun that was to make all South America tremble, ye gods. But for the untimely fate that befell the Destroyer, which is now blacking its ribs, uncoffined and almost unknown, in Rio harbour, that gun would have been a South American institution, as it was apparently Peixots' intention to lend it round to his brother-president's when required, that is whenever there was any family trouble to arrange, which was its peculiar forte. The captain's experiences on the trip are a mixture of danger and humour that cannot fail to amuse.

THURSDAY

Yesterday was breezy, meteorologically and newsyologically. Peace and War went arm in arm in the "ecos del dia". There was nothing very fresh from Uncle Paul Kruger, except that he has n't let Jameson and Co. out of his clutches yet, and Eye-glass Joe has sent him a mild telegram on the subject. As for the Venezuela question, it is looked on as being settled by the appointment of Sir Augustus Hemming as Governor of British Guyana, as he is just the manner of man to stitch up matters without any hemming or hawing. Although John Bull has made his peace with Uncle Sam, Emperor William and everybody all round, the old gentleman evidently means to be ready for anything and everything, as he has just ordered in a slap *ten* new cruisers of high speed. This is essentially peaceful news. The Italians are still licking the Abyssinians bravely, and the chances are the latter will soon cry, hold enough.

Our newsy and breezy evening colleague *El Argentino* is hauling the National Lottery over the coals in a harrowing way. This dressing will do the N. L. a lot of good, as the rumours current lately about the general management of this gambling-cum-charity institution are very much the reverse of complimentary. The funny part of the business is that the Commissioners, while horrified at Montevidean Lottery tickets being sold here in violation of the law, have three agencies in the Capital of Uruguay to sell their tickets in the teeth of the law there! Ha! Haw!

The drum again! The wily Greeks of the West Coast have now struck up a friendship with the Japs, who, in return for the sale of the Esmeralda, have bought 10,000 Mausers and 30,000 uniforms for our West Coast friends, who have also called out a "corps d'armee." The only thing fretting them is that they cannot raise a red cent in London, where Rothschild has trampled on their "dignidad de hombres" by refusing to have anything to do with them, and the other bankers have exacted very humiliating terms. Their only chance now is to send all the German officers they have hired back to Berlin as Loan Commissioners "to raise the wind."

According to Chilian Census returns Valparaiso must be a very one-horse place. The Census gives the place a population of 140,000 souls, including an additional 10% for mistakes and "otras yerbas." The deaths in Valparaiso during 1895 were 6213—this would give a ratio of mortality of 44 1/3 per thousand. Valparaiso must be a great place for undertakers. We are informed that both in Santiago and Valparaiso a death-rate of 60 per thousand is not uncommon. No wonder Life Insurance Companies abandon the West Coast. The cream of the joke is that in spite of such death figures and of an utter absence of influx of bone and sinew from abroad, the Census credits both cities with a yearly natural growth of 3% (three per cent!!) What must the birth-rate then be? There must be a screw loose somewhere.

The court martial has unanimously acquitted navy Captains Eyroa and Mendez of the charges brought against them of illegal sea fishing at Staten Island. Their lawyers were Drs. Galiano and Dupuis, who displayed the greatest legal ability in the case and carried off their gallant clients with flying colours.

The National Guard is to have but short respite from their arduous duties. It is probable that in March an army of 100,000 citizen-soldiers will be organized, to be divided into 3 army corps, namely: Northern, Andine Provinces; Central, Cordoba and Littoral Provinces; Southern, Capital and Province of Buenes Aires. Definite arrangements have not, however, been yet made.

The last mail brings news of the "New Rugby" Tennessee, started at great expense 15 years ago by Mr. Tom Hughes, who on the opening of this celebrated establishment made a great speech. The history of this ideal community is as follows:—"Fifteen years ago a small group of earnest English and American reformers, brougbt together and presided over by Judge Tom Hughes, formed themselves into a "Board to Aid to Land Ownership," and bought up a large tract of territory in the Tennessee mountains, which they named after Arnold's great school. Every attraction was offered to young Englishmen, especially ex-public schoolboys, to settle there, and a band of pioneers went out in 1880, headed by Judge Hughes himself. The site had been chosen chiefly for its great natural beauty, the proximity to good markets, and its wealth of timber and minerals; but the soil was poor, and the neighbouring farmers from the first looked on the experiment with doubtful eyes. "We want," said Judge Hughes "to make healthy, brave, modest, and true men and women." Rugby was to be the spot where brotherhood, beauty, culture, and those ideals for which John Ruskin has so persistently fought should be brought to fruition; and the race for mere wealth was only a very secondary aim. The whole plan was idealistic, and many of the first settlers began work in a way that would have raised the derision of practical pioneers. The first thing they did was to lay out a lawn-tennis ground; most brought their shot guns and fishing rods with them, and few were prepared for those years of strenuous endeavour which are the inevitable portion of first-settlers. In the everyday management the founders sought to combine the liberty of individualism with the benefits of communism. The village store was run on a co-operative basis, and there was a common herd of cattle, and the end of it all is that the Standard Oil Company, the most powerful, selfish, and materialistic corporation of capitalists that the present generation has seen, sucks up the village, and will turn what was intended to be a centre of culture and beauty into a dirty mining town, ugly and malodorous."

There is a woman without legs at the Argentine Pavilion just now. Her name is La Houssa, and she is rather nice. Like a good many ladies of the present day, she is an optical delusion.

There is a quaint story told of a couple of pious Scotchmen who were taking dinner together one summer day in a little parsonage in the high lands. It was the Sabbath day, the weather was beautiful, and the bubbling streams were full of trout and the woods full of summer birds. One turned to the other and said: "Mon, don't ye often feel tempted on these beautiful Sundays to go out fishing?" "Na, na," said the other "I never feel tempted, I just gang."

Matters must be improving in one-horse Paraguay. The Gold Eagle there has come down to 565 (unless there is a mistake in the telegram) which is a hundred points lower than the peak on which the bird was perched a few months ago. By the way, what has become of the Australian colonists? We have heard nothing of them for some time. No news is good news, according to the old saw.

FRIDAY

Yesterday was one of the most charming days imaginable, more like early autumn than summer, and the unfashionables unable to leave town for camp and seaside, crowded the streets, as the European dodge of living in the back of the house, keeping the hall-door shut, and pretending to be out of town, is despised and unknown in this polished and patent-leather country. There was no news to set anybody's coat-tails on fire, except those of our Spanish friends, who now admit that the game is all but up in Cuba. They all blame Martinez Campos, and say he is not worth his salt, which seems to outsiders to be in or about the truth.

The scandal of the day was the attempt to get the Senate to meet to sanction the shameful sugar bounty Bill. Severa. Senators indignantly refused to enter Congress Hall for such a purpose.

Although war ships, guns, Mausers, fortifications and the art of war in general are now the great question of the day, the Gold Eagle seems to have some "superior information" and is as sleepy as a dormouse. A few months ago, half the present war talk would have sent the bird into fits of screaming and soaring. It's strange, but true.

More Kalendars! One from Mr. Maitland Edye, the popular representative of the Commercial Union, and the other (a hunting scene in England) from our great Scab Cure friend Hayward, through his representatives, the Fabricantes Ingleses. Thanks for both. The pressure of Kalendars for space on the walls of our office is now posivitely greater than that on our columns.

Our esteemed colleague *El Argentino* which is a regular ferret for news, says there is a big, very big, political cat in the bag, which it intends to let loose "cuanto antes." It will be the cat of the season.

The Merced church was crowded to the doors on Wednesday evening by the elite of society at the marriage of Mr. Ortiz Basualdo and Miss Mercedes Zapiola. As the bride, who looked lovely, but was very nervous, entered the church on the arm of her brother, Mr. Benjamin Zapiola, the orchestra played Mendelsohn's Wedding March. When the ceremony was over the Wedding March from Lohengrin was played. A grand breakfast was given at the residence of the bride's mother, and the happy couple subsequently left for Pergamino to spend the honeymoon.

It's all decided. There will be only one Corso in Carnival, May Avenue, Calle Entre Rios to Venezuela, returning by same street and Callao to Santa Fé, and Anchorsna. There will be four rows of carriages. "Tant pis," It won't be a patch on the old Corso in Calles Florida and Victoria.

The Hon. Treasurer of the British Hospital requests us to announce that in accordance with a resolution of the Committee eight Bonds ($500 each) of the Hospital loan of 1890 were drawn to-day at the Aritish Consulate for amortization. The numbers of the Bonds drawn were 3, 7, 17, 44, 48, 50, 70 and 78.

A little girl 2 year's old was yesterday at Azcuénaga 674 left asleep in bed. Waking up she got hold of a box of matches and lighting some of them set her clothes on fire. Before help came she was so frightfully burnt that she died shortly afterwards.

There will be lots of Cricket and tea during Carnival, as the yearly North and South match is to come off while all the masking and mummery is going on. We pat "Round the Town" of *Sport and Pastime* on the back for standing up for the Carnival holidays and condemning the silly way in which English people sneer at the institution that gives them yearly such a welcome respite from business. He says:—"Methinks that English people take more advantage of the Carnival holidays than any other nationality, and it ill becomes us to scoff at the mummeries which obtain here at this season, simply because the Latin races happen to have a different way of enjoying themselves to that adopted by us Anglo-Saxons." Hear! Hear!

We have been favoured with the annual report of the Colegio Parody. Little boys may feel interested in learning that this college is on the all-work-and-no-play principle, and only stops work on one day in the year—New Year's Day.

In copying the other day from our esteemed contemporary the *Montevideo Times* an obituary notice of the late lamented Mr. Humphrey Chamberlain, we omitted to correct an error in it to the effect that deceased was son-in-law of *the late* Rev. Francis Smith, D.D., for many years Rector of St. John's Church in this city. We are most happy to say that this much-esteemed clergyman is still alive and in the best of health.

Poor pigeon! Last month one of the carrier-pigeons of the Military College was sent to Mendoza to see how long it would take to get back here with a despatch. For ten days after it left Mendoza nothing was heard of it, but on the fourteenth day it fluttered into its cot at the college, with the tiny despatch tied to its neck. It was half dead with fatigue, and wounded in one wing and leg by some rude, untutored swain who fired at it as it passed.

The Reserve Squadron (the Independencia, the Patagones and El Plata) took up position in the Outer Roads yesterday for eight days' target and signal (day and night) practice; so don't jump in your beds readers if you hear the dread artillery and see flaming war rockets in the sky at night. After eight days of this work the squadron will go to Banco Chico. Yesterday the torpedo boats Murature and Ferrer were hard at practice and joined the squadron in the evening. Captain Irigaray commands the whole, on board the Independencia as flagship.

When good ships are wanted quickly there is only one place on earth where they are always to be had, and that's grand old England Government has wisely resolved to buy the two transports which are to be used in fomenting the Southern trade, till required for war purposes, ready made in England, instead of losing time in having new vessels built to order. This is far the best plan. Some splendid steamers have already been offered cheap to the Argentine Minister in London.

SATURDAY

There was a summer drowsiness about local affairs in general yesterday in spite of the lingering echoes of the "clangor tubarum" of the previous few days; and but for the Cubans and our Abyssinia countryman McKinnon, there would have been no hot news to help old Sol to put us all in a healthy perspiration. The telegrams from the "Pearl of the Antilles" represent Spain's handy man of all work, old Campos, as completely played out, and the Royal cause on its last legs, as the rebs have surrounded Havana. As for McKinnon, he has beleaguered Makalle with his hordes, and Major Galleano and his brave little garrison are "up a tree" and will have to lay down their arms and surrender. Moses in Egypt was never in a worse fix than "Gli Italiani in Africa" are at present. In English and North American quarters the question was as to what Lord Salisbury is up to in sending the tremendous new Flying Squadron to the "Bermoothes?" Is there still a hole in the Venezuela ballad? May the Pilgrim Fathers forbid!

The favorite old National transport Villarino leaves to-day from the Darsena Sur for Patagones, under command of Teniente de Navio Calderon. She takes the 8th Battalion of the Line, some 500 men, with wives and children. The departure of the transport for what may be termed our old "querencia" revives memories of the days of Villegas when Patagones was in its glory. The very dogs of Patagones will bark with delight when they see the old steamer. We advise Colonel Garcia, Chief of the Naval Staff, to make all national transports call at Patagones on their voyages down South, for the steamer service to-day is so execrable that owners of estancias in the Rio Negro territory cannot visit their estates. The business would be lucrative one for the transports and would be a god-send for the settlers. Should the Villarino encounter foul weather and be unable to cross the Rio Negro bar, Captain Calderon need only turn her nose and steam into San Blas Bay. He is one of the few officers in the Navy who know the Bahia San Blas perfectly. The steamer Litoral in her last trip to Patagones encountered such a fall that she put into San Blas for two days.

There is joy in fashionable Israel and corn in Egypt yet. The Committee of the Progreso Club have resolved to give one Carnival ball—perhaps two—in the Argentine Pavilion.

Another treat in store for those who prefer their music smoked and moistened. On Saturday the 25th inst. a Smoking Concert in aid of the British and American Benevolent Society, at the Eden Theatre, Bon Marché buildings. The following gentlemen have kindly consented to take part:—Messrs. Crowe, Courtés, Greenlees, Harrison, Holtum, Lee, Leslie, Wilson, Magrane, Morgan, Permain, Robinson, Sams and H. C. Thompson.

We were wrong in saying above that the Cubans and Italians in Africa were the only fellows kind enough to throw us into a cold perspiration yesterday. The rumour from Chile of General Korner's resignation made several people jump and then call for a hot drink. It appears that the imported Moltke on the West Coast is disgusted at none of his proposed measures being carried out, and he threatens to resign if he be not given a free hand. Affairs in Chile do not seem to be at all in that wonderful order for which the friends of the Greeks of South America are so fond of giving them credit.

We call the attention of our matron-readers to Dr. Pennell's book on "Infant Feeding," English mothers will find the volume of great use to them.

Dr. Quirno Costa, Argentine Minister in Chile, left last night "en route" for his Legation in Santiago. We wish him a pleasant journey. No diplomatist in South America has crossed the Andes so often in discharge of his mission as Dr. Costa, and its peaks and precipices must be as familiar to him as the shops in Calle Florida.

Yellow fever is rousing up at Rio in an ugly way, and at any moment the name of "Caso Sospechoso" Esq. may appear in the passenger lists of the steamers from that most unhealthy port.

The news from Mar del Plata in some of our contemporaries is estatic. The amusement of the golden youth, there now is shooting "chorlos." and 700 of the birds were butchered the other day by half a dozen of these young fellows. How unsportsmanlike! Is this not the close season?

There is tremendous activity in the War Office, and the "costureras" have their hands full. Fifty thousand National Guard and Line uniforms have to be ready before the Ides of March.

El Argentino is still belabouring the National Lottery with a big stick. Thanks to the revelations of our colleague the public can now see how scandalous the abuses have been. For many months past there have been serious rumours that the Lottery is not fairly drawn, and it behooves the new Commissioners to probe the matter to the bottom.

The Government accepted yesterday the resignation of Mr. Francisco B. Madero as a member of the Lottery Board.

Police-Magistrate Navarro has at least decided that the time has lapsed; prescribed by the Criminal Code, for the prosecution of ex-Lord Mayor Seeber accused of having in 1889 advanced a large sum of money without proper authorization to various contractors executing work for the Municipality.

The body of a decently dressed man was yesterday found lying in a piece of waste land in Barracas, near the road to the Alsina bridge with a bullet-wound in the head. As no fire-arm was to be seen in the vicinity of the corpse, it is presumed that the deceased is the victim of a crime.—Nothing more probable.

We are shocked. A Christian turning Turk! Oh! And for the same cause that upset the St. Simonians, as so graphically described in 'Scaevola's' letter from Paris yesterday. It was recently announced that a prominent European gentleman in Ceylon had become a convert to Islam. According to the Colombo papers, this person has since declared his intention of taking advantage of the privileges of the Mohammedan faith to contract a polygamous marriage with a daughter of a European official, despite the fact that he has one wife already. One journal states that several other prominent residents of the Island contemplate following the example. A nice lot of exiled Britishers they must be; but this is not the first time we have heard of the shady moral character of Ceylon, which, if it were in want of a situation with any other Power, would be quite unable to coax "buenas recomendaciones" out of its present master.

SUNDAY

The heat yesterday was the next thing to blasting, and the past participle of the verb to blast will probably be used to-day in reference to the temperature. Fortunately, there is nothing on the card for to-day but Lawn Tennis and cricket and tea, two child-like and innocent amusements which no liberal-minded Sabbatarian can object to. But who can

enjoy even going to church on Sunday after the trick played on the poor Gold Eagle by our Financial Sphinx, who has raised a big loan in London behind the back of the bird on whose vigorous health the Sphinx's acrobatic Budget depends. But, really, there is no understanding the Sphinx and his London and Berlin friends.

Our Packet Edition for the French mai steamer Portugal to-morrow is on sale to-day at our office. It is better to mail by the Duchessa di Genova on the 22nd. as she will beat the Frenchman by a couple of days at least in the run to Europe.

We call the attention of our lady readers to several "avisitos" from the oldest "tienda" in the city, that of Auld and Co., in Calle Alsina, which has the well-earned reputation of never selling an inferior article.

There was soul-shivering news yesterday about the Bolivian Boundary Commission under Colonel Olascoaga. Engineer Lugones has thrown up his post on it, as he says the gallant Colonel is by no means the right man in the right place.

Our esteemed contemporary the *Deutsche La Plata Zeitung* published a splendid Special Edition yesterday, with a beautiful lithograph done by Her Rouland of Werner's great painting of the Proclamation of the German Empire at Versailles. There is old Emperor William, with his son Frederick the Crown Prince, on his right and the Grand Duke of Baden on his left, raising his right hand to give the first hurrah for the new Kaiser. Bismark is in front, reading the proclamation, with Moltke beside him. The storm in the evening threw a damper on the racket at the Argentine Pavilion.

There will be splendid treat for lover of good music at the Operai Italian to-morrow night, when the superior pupil of the "Conservatorio Argentino de Musica" will perform those pieces, with which they passed their examination. We beg to thank Sr. Pallemaerts for his kind invitation.

The Kinetophone, and Autometon Draught Player, are still in full swing, but owing to previous engagements, can only remain here a short time longer, and those who have not seen the extraordinary show should not lose the opportunity. On Thursday next, the entire proceeds of the day, without deduction of any sort, will be given to the "Hijas de Misericordia." This is the proper way to give a benefit, and Sr. Finger deserves all credit for his generosity.

We call attention to Miss Taylor's advertisement of a Nursing home in Rosario, an institution that will meet a long-felt want in that rapidly growing place.

We learn from our British confrere at Montevideo that "the terrible Bank question" was allowed a rest, on Thursday Whoevever allowed it a rest even for one day, did wrong; there should be no rest for the wicked.

The *Courrier de la Plata* made all the men about town laugh yesterday with a story of a nice and naughty old gentleman in Paris, a retired official named Dhucque (A lineal descendant of Rhoderick Dhu, no doubt) who asked two ladies (?) to supper in a "cabinet particulier" in a swell restaurant. One of the fair ones was married and mature: the other was a girl. The supper was grand, the night was warm, and, as ladies who sup with old gentlemen at restaurants are thoroughly "new" in their ideas, the host took off his coat and supped in his shirt-sleeves. After supper the mature lady, with an arch smile, remarked that "two are company, but three are trumpery", and retired. Hours afterwards, when the "tete a tete" with Mademoiselle was over, the old chappie remembered his coat and gave a yell like a Yahoo. The coat, with 50,000 francs in the breast pocket was gone. The married and mature lady had taken it and the night train for Bourdeaux, where she took steamer for South America, and the only uncertainty about her now is, whether she is in Rio Janeiro, Montevideo, or this city.

We have received a letter from the Hony. Secy. of the British and American Benevolent Society expressing the thanks of the Commitree for the free insertion in this journal of advertisements and notices during the past year. We are always glad to help a deserving charity. We are sorry to hear it is very short of funds, in fact in debt to the Hony. Treasurer to the amount of two thousand dollars. Some well known amatours give a Smoking Concert next Saturday at the Eden Theatre in aid of the funds when we hope there will be a bumper house.

With regard to the anniversary which the German colony celebrated yesterday in this city there was one regrettable incident which caused much comment and occasioned very grave reflections among our friends the Belgians. It seems that from the balcony of the premises Florida No 125 there was displayed side by side with the German flag that of the Belgians, whose nation have no cause either love or hate their neighbours or to feel any enthusiasm about their anniversary. Hence it was felt by Belgians that the display of their flag was uncalled for. We understand that the party responsible, when requested to remove the flag, treated the request in the most offensive way. It is said that the matter will not rest there, but that the Belgian Consulate will take some steps that will give a full explanation of the matter.

The week wound up briskly enough yesterday in the way of European news. The "turbaned and malignant Turk's" empire is going to the last of the three D's, and the famous "European concert," which Lord Salisbury patted on the back at the Guildhall banquet has already arrived there and burst up—flutes, fiddles, big drums, trombones, trumpets, and the whole boiling. The Italians are holding out like bricks against that Scotch-Irishman McKinnon at Makalle, and if General Baratieri (another Irishman, whose real name is Barry) only hurries up with reinforcements, he will save the situation. The Dons in Caba are done for, unless General Oldpole (Palavieja), the new Governor, is able to change the face of affairs. Our little war in Ashantee is over. Colonel Scott has taken Coomassie without firing a shot, and has promised to restore King Coffee's umbrella (captured the last time we took that city) if King Prempeh makes peace like a good and sensible nigger. The most important piece of news from Europe is that Dover is to be fortified at once. This shows beyond yea or nay that John Bull expects a naval war.

Commercial News.

Monday, January 13th 1895.

In another column we give a description of the panic in Wall Street after the publication of the Cleveland Message, when parties on'Change paid as high as 80% per annum for accommodation. It would be a mistake, however, to suppose that the panic spread in the same proportion to stocks, as was stated in cables received here last month. We see in the London papers an interesting comparison of prices of several stocks on the 17th December (when the Message was made public) and on the 20th December, viz:—

	Dec. 20	Dec. 17	Fall
	—	—	—
Consols.....	106¾	1073/16	17/16
India 3½%.....	117	118½	1½
Brighton "A"....	165	166¼	1¼
Great Eastern...	86	87⅞	1⅞
Great Western...	160½	162¼	1¼
Midland.....	154¾	155¾	1
North-Eastern....	163¼	164	¾
North-Western...	184¾	186	1¼
South-Eastern "A"	85½	87½	2⅜
Brazil, 1889.....	65	68¾	3¾
Egyptian Unified.	101¼	102½	1¼
Italian 5%.....	83⅝	84⅞	1¼
Mexican 6%.....	88½	91½	3
Spanish 4%.....	61	62⅞	1⅞
Atchison shares..	14¼	17⅜	3¼
Do second Mortgage.....	23½	27¾	4¼
Chicago, Milwaukee, and St. Paul	67⅝	77⅝	10
Denver Preferred.	43½	50¾	7⅜
Illinois Central...	91½	101	9½
Lake Shore.....	147½	155	7½
Louisville and Nashville.....	44¾	54¾	10
New York Central	95½	103½	8
Pennsylvania ($50 shares).....	49½	55½	6
Canadian Pacific.	51⅞	57	5⅜
Grand Trunk Guaranteed....	40½	44	3½
Mexican Railway First Preference	65½	66½	1

The exchange market continued stationary at 48¼-5/16d. on London, 5.09 to 5.10 fcs, and 4.13 marks. The money market shows unaltered features; paper discounts at 8%, gold nominal at 7%.

The following is the opinion of the La Plata Executive on the agricultural machine competition:—Referring to the judgment of the jury it says that it is useless and impossible to object to the jury's decision, as the gentlemen who compose this section are well recognized authorities on these subjects. For these reasons the following was decreed:—

1st.—Not to accept the resignation of Messrs. G. Gray, F. Pessano and P. F. Pagés.

2nd.—That the jury shall give its verdict on the reapers and binders trial within 10 days from this.

This decree is signed by the Governor of the Province of Buenos Aires and Mr. E. Frers. In a few days we shall hear the result of this competition, which has been so long the talk amongst importing firms.

Another matter of discord is one between the Wolseley and Bariquand shearing machines; in a matter of machinery it requires men who have worked with both systems for some time to be able to judge on the various advantages which these shearing machines have; for instance, in many places one would fail where the other succeeds. In the last exhibition there were some differences between the importers of the Bariquand and the Committee. To settle the question Bergon and Gurt offer to compete with any other shearing machine in the republic on the following conditions:—The competition or trial to last from 10 to 20 days, the work to last 8 hours per day, the result of each day's work to be taken down by witnesses and a notary; by these means the Bariquand intends and expects to show the public its superiority over the Wolseley and other shearing machines. Now Mr. Agar here's a chance, the idea is tip-top and, if arranged, will be of great interest to estancieros. During the trial it will be easy to see which is the cheapest and which consumes the less fuel, as the latter item is of most vital importance in several districts of the country. As the Wolseley took the gold prize in Palermo we are quite sure that they will accept the offer, and give us an opportunity of seeing these two well-known machines competing with each other.

We see in the London papers that the liquidator in the winding up of the (Old) English Bank of the River Plate, Limited (Mr. T. A Welton), gives notice that, having resigned his appointment as liquidator, with the concurrence of the Senior Official Receiver, he intends to apply to the Board of Trade for his release, and has issued a statement showing the position of the company at the date of his application for release. From this statement it appears that the total receipts from date of winding-up order have been £352,543, out of assets estimated by the company's statement to produce £1,002,256. The book debts (good), which were estimated to produce £352,247, yielded 23,753, and the doubtful and bad book debts, estimated to produce £402,800, yielded £26,144. The calls made by the liquidator produced £129,027. Out of the total receipts of £352,543, payments to redeemed securities or to acquire the same, under orders of court, absorbed £95,431, leaving £257,111 for distribution among creditors, &c. The costs of the liquidation amounted to £15,497, and preferential creditors were paid £942. Interest at 4 per cent. on claims to November 31, 1892, as per the scheme of arrangement, amounted to £47,837, and £192,833 was paid to the New English Bank of the River Plate under the terms of the scheme of arrangement. In the "observations," the liquidator says:—"The assets having become the property of New English Bank of the River Plate, Limited, all sums collected in respect of same since December 12, 1892, have been received by the said bank direct, hence the account contained in the statement does not show the total sums recovered in respect of the several classes of assets. The liquidator has delayed the close of the liquidation and his application to the court for his release, because it was considered necessary by the directors of the bank to keep his powers as liquidator in existence, in the event of proceedings having to be taken against any persons in his name for the benefit of the bank. The New English Bank of the River Plate, Limited, having failed, the sums from time to time collected in respect of assets of the English Bank of the River Plate, Limited, have since been directly received by the Official Receiver as liquidator thereof. In the opinion of the Official Receiver, it is now convenient that the liquidator should vacate his office in order tha some new arrangement may be made at the instance of the Official Receiver for administering any outstanding matters connected with this liquidation."

Tuesday, January 14th

The mails by the French packet were delivered to-day, but her dates are two days behind those received by the Pacific steamer Oropesa. The papers of the 19th from London are most interesting, as they reflect a sense of stupefaction and the sledgehammer effects of the Cleveland message in England, on the continent, and in the States. With regard to the effect on Argentine Railway stocks a leading London financial journal writes in the following strain;—

"Prior to publication of President Cleveland's utterances on the Venezuelan boundary question, there was no stronger market than Argentine Railway Stocks. Two and 3 per cent was being added to prices daily, and in some instances a gain was established in the course of the first three days of the week of 5 to 8 per cent. Conspicuous in the upward movements were the capitals of the Argentine Great Western and the Buenos Aires and Pacific Companies, regarding the future prospects of which we entertain a very favourable opinion. The collapse in other securities, however, has naturally brought down the prices of these with them, but the whole of the advance has not been lost, and we have little doubt but that intrinsic merits will once more begin to tell." Then Argentine railway stocks have recovered and are now booming again on the strength of increased returns and the settlement of the guaranteed railways' claims. Argentine Funding Bonds, according to a telegram received from London this morning, advanced ¼ today, to 74¼: the Municipal Loan is quoted at 27 and National Cedulas C at 25⅞.

The December number of the *Economic Journal* of the British Economic Association contains a most interesting article of our Agricultural correspondent in England, Mr. William E. Bear, on the Agricultural Progress in the Argentine Republic. We regret that the paper is too long for our columns. In several parts he quotes the STANDARD to support his argument that the chief cause of progress of Argentine agriculture is the depreciation of the currency, which we have constantly qualified as a mistake. People in England have got into their heads that the currency crisis has not increased the paper wages of laborers; they have also a delusion that the purchasing power of the depreciated paper dollar is the same as when at par for all articles except those imported. There are fallacies resting on a slender foundation of plausibility in so far that the currency crisis has no doubt reduced to a certain extent the cost of labor. The crisis has been the greatest stimulant of agriculture, as the country has had to work hard, and is working strenuously, producing and retrenching in order to pay its debts.

Amongst the passengers arrived by the s.s. Wittekind, as an addition to those we have previously mentioned, we note Mr. Matias Sturiza, an estanciero of the Queen Province, who made his trip to Europe the object of a careful inquiry into the prospects of the continent as a market for Argentine beef and mutton, especially the Belgian and French markets. Mr. Sturiza thinks France so "ably protected" that as a market it is no market, except for home production, but with Belgium it is not so, and he was able to make arrangements there that will mark the starting point of a trade with that country in this line, Mr. Sturiza has brought out a new filter, the Breyer system, said to be superior to the Pasteur and actually in use in the Austrian army.

A very important business is reported from the Mesopotamia. Mr. José Mendizco has bought for the Liebig establishment 10,000 steers from various parts of the province, the prices being kept in reserve.

This was a ram day "par excellence" in Tattersall's. The yard was crowded and the animals, which were an exceptionally fine lot, went off at a rattling pace, the bidding being like sharpshooting, fast and furious. The following were the results:

20 Lincoln rams imported by Mersy. Thomas Murray and Co. for $10,280 giving an average of $514 each.

8 Lincoln rams imported by Mr. Miller for $4,220, giving an average of $527.50 each.

1 Oxfordshire Down ram for $490. Total of sales $14,990.

Buyers, Messrs. Garmendia, G. Ham, Gahan, Herbert Casalins, Etcheto, Lynch, Vidal, Leonardo Pereira, Iraizos, Mariñelarena, Vasquez, Lanusse, Mautalen, Kelly, Ducos and Cerro.

Wednesday, January 16th 1896.

A correspondent writes to us:—

Olavarria, F.C.S. 14th Jan. 1895.

Camps in the Pampa Central remain very bare and live-stock are suffering considerably: from Bahia Blanca northwards rainy weather has been prevalent, and round Hinojo, the scene of the Christmas, New Year waterspout, it is it is probable that a good deal of the pasturage will rot away owing to the lack of surface drainage: it is also feared that lombriz will break out during lambing unless some dry weather sets in.

Locusts are pretty active in some camps in spite of recent heavy rains, but they can hardly do any great apreciable damage so plentiful is the supply of pasto where rain has been general.

Romerias in Olavarria came to an end on Sunday last, and were well patronized by the public—more so than those in Azul, held during Christmas week.

The autumn Feria of the Sociedad Rural of Olavarria is fixed to be held on 2nd 3rd and 4th February prox.

The "bicho moro" is as usual doing great harm in estancia gardens, while a recent frost has completely killed off a number of maize plantations, so that in spite of some good sales of live-stock etc. effected during the past few days, estancieros are not in the best of humours.

Thursday, January 16th 1896.

Dr. Aristobulo Del Valle will start taking out probate to the late Mr. Pedro J. Piñeiro's estate as soon as the Courts re-open. The assets are sworn at 2½ million dollars, and in these hard times 2½ millions is certainly substantial enough to swear by, for, or at.

Our colleague *La Agricultura*, which made its weekly bow to the public to-day, has a very interesting correspondence from a Danish gentlemen down Rio Colorado way, anent the possibilities of the country between Bahia Blanca and Rio Colorado as regards agriculture. The writer says that alfalfa does wonderfully well, as the water is close up, but nothing else will thrive unless the proprietors take a leaf from Messrs. Luro's book and irrigate, when the whole of this big tract could be turned into a garden. For this reason he thinks that if some syndicates or companies got to work down there, bought up fairish sized properties and put up irrigation works the future of the district would be assured. Otherwise things must move very slowly. It is a grand place for Northern Europe he says. This week's edition's plates of our bucolic compeer are very interesting—a charming photographic landscape by Dr. Ayerza, "mate" and "siesta" on the bank of the arroyo, "sub tegmine fagi"; and a river view of a part of Mr. Leonardo Pereyra's beautiful estancia in Quilmes. There are articles on the Census and rural economy, subjects that would cause acute mental drought but for being so aptly handled.

Somebody that has been connected with the Municipality is in trouble over the small matter of ¼ million dollars, unaccountably disappeared. Judge Navarro says that the statute of limitations comes into play and saves somebody's bacon, criminally considered, but there is still civil action open. What a curious thing that the shortage should have escaped notice so long. Accidents will happen, to be sure, and even half a million cannot count on immunity.

With regard to Argentine beef abroad, it seems after all that there is something in the "caso sospechoso" denounced of an Argentine steer having been found at Deptford suffering from pleuro-pneumonia. The case was officially made public in the report of the veterinary inspection Department to the Royal Agricultural Society of England, and certainly this should be sufficient grounds for a rigorous inquiry, in view of the very serious nature of the business. It is well known that pleuro-pneumonia does not exist here, so that the inference is the animal got tainted on the voyage or arrival. Anyway the Government should order immediate inquiry to be instituted with a view to eliciting precise details.

The Camara de Comercio of Antwerp has sent its colleague here a polite intimation that unless the "saladeristas" mend their way and are more careful in salting their hides the latter will be carefully avoided by buyers, as they arrive in very bad condition. The Antwerp Chamber goes to the lengths of describing the very best process of salting, so that those in the trade should take the hint and cut the cloth to suit the customer.

The Argentine Consul in Manchester has sent the Finance Minister the following data: Imports into England from Argentine Republic from 1st January to 30th November 1895:

	quantity		value
	—		—
Frozen Meat	682,606	quintals	£955,000
Tallow.....	101,049	"	115,642
Wheat.....	11,387,860	"	3,139,178
Maize (in November)	1,235,000	"	—

The stock on hand in the Catalinas was as follows up to the 15th January:—

	Bags	kilos
	—	—
Wheat.....	1,252	93,890
Bran.....	1,053	33,650
Oats.....	28	1,400
Mustard....	1,117	87,825
Turnips....	587	44,025
Maize.....	136,500	10,237,500
"Cebadilla".	31	1,240
Barley.....	162	6,480
Flour.....	111	4,844
Linseed....	25	2,000
Total....	140,866	10,511,884

Movement during the week:—

	Bags
	—
Entered deposit.....	34,575
Left do.....	32,593
For port direct.....	18,846
Total	86,014
	Bales
	—
Hay.....	8,691
Oxen.....	250

Friday, January 17th 1896.

It is quite evident that the supply of cash gold is growing at the ring. Day after day very large amounts are flung on the market, and it is strange that the premium does not break under the pressure. Those who take the trouble to peruse the lengthy column of shipments of produce which we publish daily under Shipping News can get an idea of all the produce gold that must be steadily coming upon the market. By that list we see the extraordinary movement going on in the docks, Basin, and in the Riachuelo, and the wonder is that with such an export trade the supply of produce gold does not run higher.

The minute way or system in which the coast guard system is to be conducted here will cause admiration for simplicity and economy if it turns out all efficacious. In this regard we note that the Finance Minister has asked the Revenue office to name an employee to look after the guano business on the Southern coast, with a view to protecting fiscal interests. Perhaps he will be perched on Monte Hermoso and furnished with a patent, double-barreled, high-pressure telescope with an easy range of Fireland and the Falklands, and a telephone to transmit orders, or perhaps he will be a peripatetic inspector and superintend the loading of guano on the spot. The south coast, however, is a big stretch and will take up all his time, especially if he is not provided with a coadjutor.

The Far South still. The Ushuaia left yesterday for Fireland a full ship, 11 cabin and 24 steerage passengers, the former including Drs. Lahitte and Alboff who go on a scientific exploring expedition, and the latter 20 convicts—9 women and 11 men, who volunteered for the convict station about to be started down south. As we have frequently pointed out, this settlement is an admirable move of the Government to turn a loose element into a useful chanel, and the Governor has very rosney hopes of being able to mould it into a prosperos colony. The Ushuaia will not return. She is to be left below for local service.

After working ourself into a very enthusiastic moral frame of mind over the alluring picture of the abandoned criminal regretting the evil of his ways and turning mind and hands to a sounder, more moral and more useful occupation, civilizing the aborigine, making up the wilderness and peopling the frontier—the picture has been rudely shattered. The volunteers repented of their good resolutions just as the anchor was being catted, and turned the Ushuaia into a bedlam, with the result that they were all marched ashore again. Argentine convicts must be an incorrigible lot, surely, and it was grossly inconsiderate of them to allow such golden hopes to be built up only to be dashed again to the ground. It seems a hopeless case.

Mr. Martin Meyer, the leading hide-broker reports as follows for the fortnight:—

Sales from 1st to 15th January:—

Dry ox hides for North America—

No sales; prices nominal.

5,000 hides for the North of the Continent—

"Matadero" ox and cow hides; prices nominal.

Camp hides, second-class, at $2.20 and $3.30 gold.

20,000 hides for France, Italy and Spain—

10,000 classified and "desecho" hides from this province at $2.90 to 2.60 gold.

5,000 Entre Rianos and Correntinos at $2.70 and 2.35 gold.

1,000 Cuyubanos reshipped, at $2.40 gold.

1,000 do heavy at $2.89 gold.

3,000 calfskins at $2.40 gold.

In stock—3,000 hides from Corrientes.

"Saladero" salted ox hides—

No sales. In stock 7,000 hides.

"Matadero" salted ox hides—

20,000 ox and cow hides at reserved price. No stock.

"Saladero" tallow—

250 pipes and bordalesas at $9¾ gold on board. In stock 350 pipes.

"Matadero tallow—

500 pipes and bordalesas at reserved price. No stock.

Salted "potro" hides—

4,000 hides, 15 kilos at $2.87½ to 2.80 gold. No stock.

Potro grease—$2.70 to 2.80m/n.

Jerked beef—No sales.

Slaughter to 15th January:—

	1896	1895
	—	—
	Head	Head
	—	—
Buenos Ayres.....	74,300	58,900
Argentine and Oriental Republics.....	78,800	63,700
Montevideo.....	113,800	149,500
Rio Grande.....	—	—
	266,900	265,100
	1894	1893
	—	—
	Head	Head
	—	—
Buenos Ayres.....	69,700	57,000
Argentine and Oriental Republics.....	108,500	36,200
Montevideo.....	95,400	104,600
Rio Grande.....	13,000	42,000
	286,600	239,300

Bullrich and Co, took in hand to-day a fine stretch of camp in Entre Rios, Department of Villaguay, 6 leagues from the town studded with a perfect forest of valuable timber, which alone, according to the auctioneer, is worth more than the price put to the whole property. The camp is situated on the Arroyo Tigrecito, covers an area of 5399 hectares and is surrounded by the Elia, Diaz, Abella, Velazquez and Smith properties. Put up with reserve of $8 the hectare it was knocked down at this rate to Mr. Antonio Hiriart.

Tattersall's had a big gathering for the sale of the fine batch of rams imported by Don Diego Church, which sold as follows:

$		Buyers.
—		—
Lincoln rams	1600	M. Dovel
" "	1620	B. Lopez
" "	950	"
" "	650	J. Vasquez
" "	580	Kelsey and Co.
" "	610	"
" "	480	Saenz Valiente
" "	520	Lourtet
" "	520	"
" "	480	Bintana
" "	820	R. de Azua
" "	680	Mariñelarena
" "	470	Diaz
" "	480	"
" "	700	"
" "	500	Galarce
" "	380	Etchepare
" "	560	"
" "	640	Alraguin
" "	610	"
" "	520	Ojea
" "	500	Caro
" "	400	Duncan
" "	340	J. Fernandez
" "	470	R. Cuto
" "	480	G. Ham
" "	460	"

La Plata Port

Jan. 17th.

The following live-stock were exported from the Muelles and Depositos during the year 1895:

1895	Steers	Horses	Sheep
—	—	—	—
Jan.....	233	4	6,763
Feb.....	2,706	—	11,198
March...	3,038	61	22,094
April....	1,752	—	14,978
May.....	2,772	216	20,932
June....	2,157	398	18,235
July....	2,851	—	20,299
Aug.....	2,537	3	16,324
Sept.....	1,778	—	13,555
Octob...	3,135	17	11,124
Nov.....	921	—	4,707
Dec.....	1,046	8	5,518
Total...	24,926	707	165,728

From the same wharves the following were the exports from 1890 to 1895 both inclusive:—

Year	Steers	Horses	Sheep	Pigs
—	—	—	—	—
1890.	1685	—	3535	—
1891.	7007	2731	10972	—
1892.	4430	837	4262	60
1893.	14380	71	8407	988
1894.	6999	468	30211	1243
1895.	24926	707	165728	—
Total	59427	4814	223115	2321

Saturday, January 18th 1896.

The Ministerial "tip" semi-officially given in our colleague *El Diario* at the beginning of the week is proving true with a vengeance. On Tuesday last our Financial Sphinx delivered the oracle, foreshadowing a very heavy fall in gold, on the very heels of the Secret sitting in the Deputies. The shrewd took the hint, but the majority were too much impressed with the vote for fresh armaments to believe in the probability of any decline in gold. Five days have elapsed and gold has fallen four points, confirming the Minister's prophecy. If we rightly remember, Dr. Romero stated that the clip and crops were so large that the superabundant supply of gold and exchange must eventually force down the premium. The Minister necessarily cannot take the market into his confidence, nor can he unbosom his thoughts to the press, but it strikes one forcibly that behind the bearish argument of large clip and heavy crops there is something still more forcible, facts that the Minister cared not to disclose, on which his lips were sealed and could only be alluded to in figures of speech such as the quantity and quality of wool, wheat, and maize—other words for a plentiful supply of cash for the Treasury through improved credit and some financial operation.

The market smells a rat. Nobody knows outside Congress and the Government what took place in the secret sittings at the beginning of the week, but in the market they whisper that besides votes for armaments there was some important financial operation discussed. At the ring and in the hall the rumor ran round to-day like wild-fire that the National Treasury has managed to secure advances the amount of which is a matter of conjecture—the figure is supposed not to be under £5,000,000 stg. and not to exceed £7,000,000 stg. Should there be any foundation to this report we do not wonder that Minister Romero can venture to prophecy a fall in gold, on a plea that the enormous production of the country will buoy up exchange and keep the greedy Bolsa well glutted with gold. With such financial reinforcements all the extraordinary expenditure in the War and Navy offices for 1896 and 1895 can be met; it remains only to be seen in what shape the Government has to repay all these advances—balance of loans, whispers Dame Rumor. It sounds very plausible.

This being the settlement of the week's account there was a very sharp demand for cash gold, but every dollar required was supplied. A very active speculation set in and amounts were banged away in a rapidly falling market. Over six hundred thousand dollars changed hands for cash; the premium opened with a snap at 228%, reeled to 226%, and closed flat at 226.40%. Two hundred thousand dollars were sold for the end of the month; the premium opened at 228.50%, fell to 247%, and closed at 227.80%—stiff difference for the 12 days. Business for the end of February embraced one hundred and fifty thousand dollars; the premium opened at 230.50% and closed at 229.50%—nearly three points contango. Something was done for the end of March at 231 and 232% premium. Over one million dollars changed hands at the first ring to-day, the gold market closing with a falling tendency all round. They say that the Gold King has turned round this week.

In view of the very large business done in produce in the last two days there was a much larger supply of bills in the exchange market and the rate showed a jumping tendency. A fair amount of business was passed at 48¾d. on London, large amounts of bills offering. Francs were also active at 5.09 on France and 5.10 on Belgium, with symptoms of rise. Marks were freely done at 4.12½ and 4.13 on Germany. The rise in the price of wheat, maize, and wool in Europe must necessarily give a sharp spurt to exports here, and all the exchange brokers believe that the market is on the eve of a rise in rates. We see by telegrams from New York that some gold is coming from that quarter for the Plate—this time nearly two hundre thousand sovereigns, some triangular exchange operation. The Plate is now the recipient of gold from Chile, Montevideo, London, and New York. About half a million sterling is reported now on the way out.

The demand for paper money continues on a lively scale in the market. Paper discounts are quoted firm at 8%, and gold, without demand, nominal at 7%.

It was stated in the coulisses of the gold circle to-day that the Argentine Minister, who left last night for Chile, via Mendoza, takes in his carpet bag the final propositions of the Argentine Government in the Limits Dispute. These propositions are in the shape of a protocol that, it is known, meets with the approval of Sr. Guerrero, Chilian Minister of Foreign Affairs: no wonder, therefore, so much importance was attached to the rumors of the latter gentleman's resignation. Thus, it all goes well, if nothing untoward happens, if the unexpected does not upset the Chilian Government coach, we may expect some very important news before the middle of February—let us hope that by the time the protocol of

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1268 d31 xp

Argentina will be endorsed by Chile. All's well that ends well.

Mr. Gilderdale was welcomed to-day on his arrival from the Neuquen territory. He has brought up some gold from the Milla-Michi Co-gold mine in that territory: this gold was turned out by the Argentine Mint to-day in a bar of 2.6 kilogrammes with the stamp of the nation and guarantee of 7/8 fine: another sample, also from the mint, gave 886 fine. These two bars were exhibited in the London and River Plate Bank to-day: we think that Mr. Gilderdale ought to exhibit them also on the Bolsa, where they will create a sensation and conclusively prove that Argentines have a Transvaal of their own in the Neuquen territory. We are informed that the bigger bar of sample gold, worth, say £300 stg., only cost about 800$ m/n paper, all expenses told. Our Neuquen friends will be glad to read all this news.

That there is still a fraction in the market convinced that gold is cheap is conclusively proved by the steady withdrawal of specie at every settlement. The withdrawal from the liquidator's counter this afternoon was the largest since the December settlement. Six hundred thousand dollars were taken up. Meantime, it is well to take note that the gold king may now be dubbed the Bear king, and other bullish speculators have been rudely shaken in their convictions since last Tuesday, when the Ministerial Fiat appeared in the *Diario*.

The following are the weeks' exports of cereals and wool:

	Tons		$ gold
Wheat.....	1,570	equal	35,325
Maize......	17,570	"	281,120
Linseed....	3,815	"	144,970
Wool......	4,300	"	683,100
			1,144,515
Previous week			2,071,845
Difference against this week			927,330

This being due to the falling off in wool, last week's exports on this head figuring for 8650 tons.

The estancieros of Villegas have informed the La Plata Government that it would be advisable, in view of the great mortality in the flocks in that partido, to send a veterinary surgeon to diagnose and suggest a remedy, as the estancieros have been powerless to arrest the disease. The Government will no doubt take immediate action in the matter, as it is a very serious thing for owners and may spread to other districts unless steps are taken to isolate the evil.

There is a fairly big consignment of precious metal coming South on a visit from the States. The s's Leibig brings £100,000 and the Manicovia £70,000. This is the biggest consignment yet sent down from that quarter. The steamers left New York on Friday last.

The road from Acha to Chosmalal is creeping along very steadily; 60 men of the regiment of engineers, at work fof for some time thereon, have finished the first section of 40 leagues out of the total of 116, and the Government is now reinforcing the number at work with a further contingent of 40 men of same regiment who will leave shortly for the scene of labour under command of Captain Vallée. At headquarters the desire to expedite the business is pronounced, and Captain Vallée promises to have it all fixed up within four months.

The Banco Comercial de Las Flores has handed round its report and balance sheet for 1895, the latter shewing a profit of $24,553, which reads very well for the management of this young and prosperous institution.

SALES AND AUCTIONS.

The Saladero Casas Blancas of Paysandu has purchased 800 prime steers from the Unzue Estancia Potrero, Dept. of Uruguay, at $12 gold per head. Another matadero, that of Messrs. Rocca y Cia., has taken up 3,000 steers, 3 years and upwards, from Messrs. Vivanco and Pellegrini's Estancia, La Chilca, in 25 de Mayo, at reserved price.

The veteran of veterans Don Adolfo had pamphlets handed round to-day of the great annual sheep show and auction to be held at his mart on 20th and 21st inst. The animals on show will form a splendid collection. All the breeders of the country will send in a contingent, so that it will be an exceptional opportunity for acquiring new strains.

One of the most important transactions in live stock effected for quite a time back is reported. Messrs. Kingsland and Brougham have contracted for 900 novillos, minimum weight 650 kilos, from the Salado at 35 gold per head; to be taken before 31st March and 2000 head to pick from. It is a very important business.

Messrs. Bossio and Camuyrano have disposed of eleven imported Lincoln rams for $9700, giving an average of $881 per head, buyers Dr. F. Perez, G. Echeduri, P. Estanga, L. Martinez and Lesazo add F. Guallica.

Mr. Hamilton W. Langley, well known estanciero, writes from London that a batch of steers landed in Deptford from the Unzué estancias attracted much attention amongst the English buyers for their size and quality, though from the trip having proved a rough one, the animals were naturally in poor condition, and still they were taken for North American cattle by many, and all round considered the best lot ever landed in England from the Argentine Republic.

The Peña saladero has just slaughtered 450 head of cattle from the Unzué properties and will continue working until 8000 head have been polished off.

There was not even a quarter head of steam on at the marts to-day. Messrs. Bollini and Co suspended the sale of the house property Azcuenaga 836 which was for account of the National Mortgage Bank. Messrs. Bollini and Alcorta sold a site in Calle Rawson between Corrientes and 2da Corrientes for $60.50, buyers Messrs. Segesso Calcagnino. And this was all that was done.

PRODUCE MARKETS.

The fall in gold and the sudden sweep down in wool operations were the characteristics of the day. The slump in the wool markets can only be compared to the excessive changes in the weather. What brought the gold eagle down is still a subject of comment; as to wool we can understand the fall, as the 'artistas' are busily engaged in shipping their former sales, which seems to occupy all their attention. Nothwithstanding all this, the telegrams from London about the colonial wool auctions continue at the same prices. During the week 68,000 bales were sold, 4,000 only being retired, the attendance was large and competition well kept up; the largest buyers were North Americans who are probably speculating for a rise as the current belief in those centres, is that when the rise comes it will be sharp. Out here, the demand for fine wool has relaxed, the interest observed amongst French "artistas" for this article has declined greatly during the week; it seems that their orders are all filled, and they have not received further fresh orders.

The arrivals in the Central were slightly under the mark, as the total barely reached 600,000 kilos, the report spread this evening that 800,000 kilos were sold is not a fact, several authorities informed us that the operations did not touch 500,000. We are well aware that, no matter, what basis the market is working on, Saturday always throws a damper on business.

The sheepskin sales in Liverpool were weak; the prices fell a half penny, the attendance, we understand, was small, reducing the sales to only 800 bales and leaving a surplus of 700 unsold, however, this does not astonish us here, as positively speaking, our prices for skins are far lower this year than in the last one.

The stock of wool is something enormous. In the Central we notice that the amount is nearly 14,000,000 kilos. The prices were to-day as follows: superior light cross Lincoln from $10.50 to 11, good from 9 to 9.80, fine wools without seed from 8 to 8.80. Mezclas and other mixed wools find no buyers.

The principal sales were as follows:—

CONSTITUCION.

Cross Lincoln wool—3000 kilos at $9.50, 15000 do 8.80, 8000 do 8.50, 15000 do 8.30, 1200 do 7.60.

Mixed—1500 do 8.50, 500 do 7.80, 4000 do 7.70, 10000 do 7.50, 4000 do 7.40.

Fine—12000 do 9.20, 7000 do 8.30, 2000 do 8.20, 500 do 7.60, 11000 do 7.40.

Borrega cross—2000 do 8.10, 1000 do 8.10, 1000 do 7, 1500 do 6.80, 2000 do 5.60, 6 and 7.

Do fine—1000 do at 6.

Belly—500 do at 4.

Sheepskins, consumo—40 dozen at 77 cts, 40 at 75, 50 at 68, 70 at 63.

Desechos—20 dozen at 57, 20 at 55, 50 at 45, 20 at 48, 20 at 43.

Cow hides, consumo—150 at $9.40, 50 at 9.80, 70 at 9.

Various skins, Potro—70 at 5.80 and 6.

Nonatos and becerros—180 at 8.50-9.

Horse hair—100 ks at 14.50.

Business in maize has fallen off considerably in the past days. Exporters are now only paying 3.10 for morocho in the Riachuelo and 3.05 in the Darsena; for yellow maize the following were the rates: in the Riachuelo 3.45, in the Once 2.90 and 3.40, in the other ports ranged from 3.40 to 3.60, 10 cents less than a few days ago. A parcel of 100 tons inferior yellow maize was sold in the Darsena at 3.05; another sale of 900 tons, to be received outside, at a reserved price, was also reported. The latest telegrams from London say that wheat in that market is firm at 24 shillings, here the article is slow, operations are on a very gingerly style, a few lots of old tuselas were sold at 7.85 and saldomé at 7.70; the new crop is quoted at 7.75 and the barletta at 7.30' the inferior or damp qualities are so-so at 5.30 and 6.50 the 100 kilos. A few days ago 4000 bags from the Martinetas in the South of the Province were sold at 8 dollars, an inferior parcel of 2000 do on board was picked up at 7 dollars. Prices in linseed are far higher this year than during the previous ones, yesterday some cargoes were sold at 33 shillings, this is the highest price paid this season; the rates here are fast approaching 3.25 and 3.30, this is greatly due to the slowness of arrivals, the lots on hand find an easy outlet at 10.75 the 100 kilos: a parcel in the Riachuelo was sold at this price, in Rosario, linseed in waggon fetched 10.50 and 10.55. It is calculated that in the past three days 50,000 bags have been exported from the Fosario port. Large shipments will be sent off during the month for London, Hamburg and Antwerp.

Business in Bahia Blanca is increasing: we heard to-day that 45,000 kilos of wool were received in that town, the colonies have begun to reap their crops; in Pigué alone, it is calculated that the yield this year will be over 25,000 bags. In the port several steamers are busy loading produce.

The present stock of cereals on hand in the Central Market is as follows:—

Wheat........	84,754	bags
Maize.........	115,158	"
Various cereals.	3,830	"
Flour..........	3,756	"
Total......	270,548	bags

We take the following from Messrs' Gibson Bros' review on the condition of produce. Referring to wool, they say: The expected reaction anticipated by consignatarios in wool has not yet put in its appearance; on the contrary the sales were so flat that they nearly killed all animation. Prices fell all round from 20 to 30 cents, the greater part of the sales were only effected owing to the concessions the consignatarios were obliged to make; the bad state of the market was unluckily backed up by the enormous stock on hand, in the Central 15,000,000 kls. are still piled up, in Constitution 2,000,000 and in the various barracas from 2 to 3,000,000 kilos. Another cause of the depression is the entire absence of German "artistas", the few that operate only comply with limited orders from the continent. As the principals buyers for foreign fabrics have already sufficient for their wants, a thud is also felt in fine wools. Some interest was noticed in cross Lincoln lambs wool, but it was only a flash in the pan, as it has completely did out. Now that the news from Europe is improving, we expect to see the depressive cloud which hangs over our wools disappear and a new sphere of activity take its place.

The Rosario markets presented greater firmness to-day, though exporters worked in a rather shaky style; through their creeping movements they managed to obtain several parcels of wheat at 6.40 and 6.50, they say that these are the highest prices they can pay for Hamburg and Antwerp. On the whole, operations were small, wheat to be delivered in February was quoted at 6.80; lots on hand were sold at 6.80. The small attendance of exporters is a considerable drawback to general business. The current belief amongst consignatarios is that the article is bound to rise in Europe; the total amount sold did not surpass 15,000 tons. Transactions in maize are smaller than ever, consumo paying only 2.75 for very good classes. A sale of 2000 bags, of good exporting quality at 2.20 is still on hand: the demand closed during the evening a little firmer, as the news from Buenos Aires reported the article steadier. The sales in linseed do not exceed the usual daily business, the demand seems lately to be rather limited, the market prices have not changed; 10.50 and 10.60 are still current, parcels on hand fetch a little more, a lot of 800 bags placed on the Central Argentino moles was sold at 10,85. The movement of the day was in the port, when exporters are busy shipping their cargoes. All other produce was dull.

Mercado Central de Frutos.

Arrivals — 209 waggons with 597,414 kilos wool, 1191 parcels sheepskins, 1783 do cow hides, 46 do horse hides, 4 parcels various, 19 bags hair, 2 bags ostrich feathers, and 22 casks grease, tallow and oil.

Once de Setiembre.

Arrivals—281 waggons with the following produce:

4263 bags bran, 503 do 'afrechillo' 381 do flour, 38 bird-seed, 643 do oats and 1380 bales hay.

Sales:—

					$
Morocho	Maize	exportation Riachuelo		at	3.00
"	"	consumo		"	2.70
"	"	"		"	2.00
Yellow	Maize	exportation		"	3.50
"	"	"		"	3.10
"	"	"		"	3.00
"	"	inferior		"	2.95
"	"	"		"	2.80
"	"	'consumo'		"	2.70
Wheat	French	old superior		"	7.85
"	Barletta	new good		"	7.20
"	little damp			"	6.50
Bran		good		"	3.30
"		middling		"	3.20
Bird-seed		exportation		"	10.60
"		consumo		"	10.00
Flour		mark 0		"	1.40
"		do 1a.		"	1.18
Hay		mezcla superior		"	25.00
"		good		"	24.00
"		inferior		"	20.00
"		"		"	18.00
"		"		"	15.00

Barracas al Sud.

Arrivals:—25 waggons with 2,728 sheep.

Sales—

	from $	to $
Capones mestizos Lincoln	7.30	" —
Capones Rambouillet and Lincoln..............	5.60	" 6.00
Do mestizos Rambouillet and Lincoln..........	6.10	" —
Do Rambouillet.........	5.00	" —
Sheep Rambouillet.......	2.80	" —

Corrales.

	Number
Arrivals............	2363
Slaughter:—	
Steers, cows and calves..	1557
Spoiled carcases.........	3
	1560

Sales:—

			$	$
Steers fat......		from	56.00	to 66.00
" "	meat	"	43.00	" 47.00
" "	good	"	28.00	" 39.00
Cows fat		"	42.00	" 48.00
" "	meat	"	30.00	" 32.00
" good "		"	20.00	" 28.00
Calves large		"	18.00	" 17.00
" small		"	9.00	" 11.50

BIRTHS.

On the 4th ult., at Peekskill, U.S., the wife of Mr. J. Nicolson, of a daughter.

On the 9th inst., at the Sola Dwellings, the wife of R. MacDonald, of a son.

On January 14th, the wife of J. B. Hall, Temperley, F. C. S., of a daughter.

On Jan. 13th, at the Estancia La Favorita, Tandil, the wife of Colin Macfarlan, of a son.

On January 14th, the wife of Lamont Smart, of a son.

On the 15th January, at Quilmes, the wife o7 Leopoldo L. Guevara, of a son.

DEATHS.

On January 14th, at Calle Rincon 1041, Ralph Brocksopp, aged 50.

On the 15th January, at Las Heras, Dr. William John Reynolds, eldest son of Professor Reynolds, of this city, aged 27 years.

On January 16th Vincent, the beloved little infant son of Leopold L. Guevara and Margaret MacDonagh.

On the 17th January, at Quilmes, Margarita, the dearly beloved wife of Leopoldo L. Guevara, aged 33.

May Jesus have mercy on her soul. R. I. P.

Passengers.

Passengers booked at Liverpool by the Pacific steamer Oropesa which arrived on Saturday at Montevideo:—

For Callao—Mr. R G Pendlebury.

For Coquimbo—Mr. F Wrate, Mrs Steel, 3 daughters and nurse.

For Calderas—Mr. K. Gilbert, Mr. and Mrs Pensa.

For Valparaiso—Messrs Heinsohn, A A Dewar, B J Maury, Mrs and Miss Sheppard, Mr. and Mrs Cohn and family, four sisters.

For Coronel—Mr. O Spoerer, Mr. and Mrs Aninat.

For Punta Arenas—Messrs J Ingwersen, A Souter, D H Cameron, W S Ferrier, Mr. and Mrs Monnet.

For B. Ayres—Messrs W D Campbell, A Imhote, W Strong, R Freedman, J Lee, Señor G Gelte, Mr. and Mrs Hoefele, Mr. and Mrs Petitpuin and family, R. Blossac, wife and child, Miss Stern, Mr. and Mrs. Nevins and child.

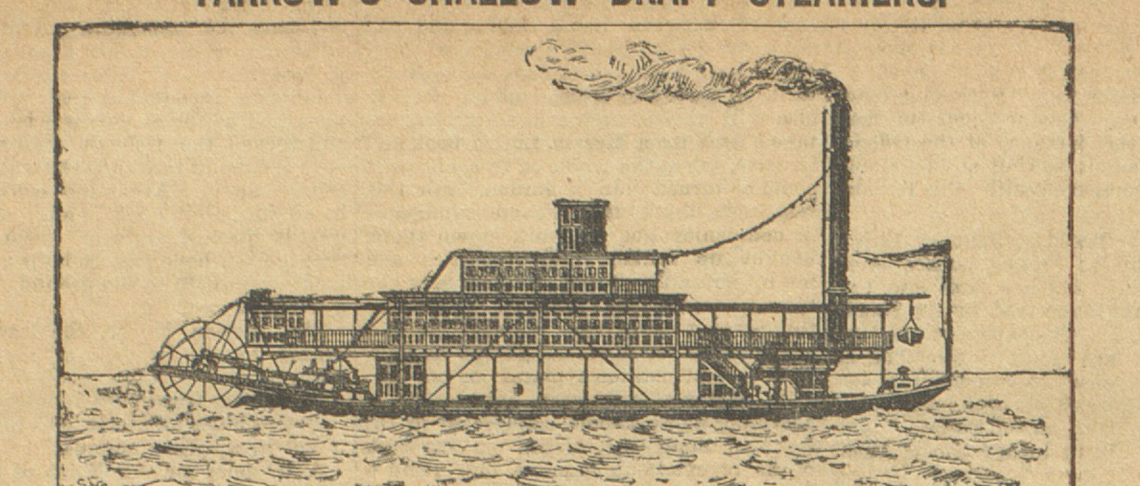
For Montevideo—Mr. Rochall.

Departures.

The following passengers will leave for Europe to-morrow (17th) by P. S. N. Liguria:—

Mr. G. Vorweck, Mrs. Tyler and child, Mr. F. Nipple, Mrs. Sexta, Mrs. N. Syrent and infant, Mr. Spencer, Mr. C. A. Buanero, Mr. Juan D. Manni, D. Conto; J. Martinez, J. Suarez, Mr. and Mrs. G. Holt and child, Mrs. Lamet, Mr. P. Curtade, Mr. B. Chalousoux, Mr. Jose Bemer, Mrs. Denton, Miss Denton, Mr. G. Larant and 48 third-class passengers.

YARROW'S SHALLOW DRAFT STEAMERS.



STERNWHEEL STEAMERS have been found by experience to be the best type of vessel for shallow river navigation, and of these Messrs. YARROW have constructed a large number of successful examples for all parts of the world.

Vessels on this system are constructed when required, to draw as little as 6 inches.

Messrs. YARROW lately built the sternwheelers "Mosquito" and "Herald" for the British Government, for service on the Zambesi.

They were constructed in floatable sections (capable of shipment), which were simply bolted together, avoiding thereby the costly and difficult process of riveting up and launching.

For full particulars apply to—
YARROW & CO., Shipbuilders,
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SAUCE has been known for more than FIFTY YEARS
ALL OVER THE WORLD
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RETAIL EVERYWHERE.

WORCESTERSHIRE SAUCE.

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COOPER'S DIP

WILL
CURE SCAB
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OTHER REMEDIES FAIL.

Keep your Flocks clean for Shearing by use of

Cooper's Powder.

SOLE IMPORTERS
IN THE
Argentine Republic
WANKLYN, CRANE & Co
265—MAIPU—265
BUENOS AYRES.

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Rowland's Macassar Oil

Is the best preserver and beautifier of the hair of children and adults; prevents it falling off or turning grey, eradicates scurf, and is the best brilliantine, and a little goes a very long way it really is most economical for general use; is sold in a golden colour for fair-haired ladies and children; it contains no lead or mineral ingredients, and as it has a most delightful perfume, it is the most luxurious dressing for the hair. Bottles, 3s. 6d, 7s, 10s. 6d.

Rowlands' Kalydor.

A soothing, healing and emollient milk for the face and hands, and is most cooling and refreshing to the skin in hot climates; it removes freckles, tan, sunburn, roughness and redness of the skin, pimples, cutaneus eruptions, etc., soothes and heals prickly heat, stings of insects, eczema, burns, and all cutaneous irritation more effectually than any other preparation, and produces soft fair skin, and a lovely delicate complexion; it is warranted harmless, and free from any lead or poisonous ingredients.

Bottles. 2s. 3d. and 4s. 6d.

Rowlands' Odonto

Is a pure, fragrant, non-gritty tooth powder, and warranted free from acids or other ingredients which destroy the enamel; it whitens the teeth, prevents and arrests decay, strengthens the gums, and gives a pleasing fragrance to the breath. Sold by Druggists and Chemists.

IMPORTANT CAUTION.—Be sure to ask for Rowlands' Macassar Oil, Kalydor and Odonto, of 20, Hatton Garden, London, and see that each article bears their signature in red ink; all others are worthless and poisonous imitations; 100 years prove that Rowlands' are the best and only ngenue. 1153 24 25 1895.

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ORIENTAL TONIC
IS UNEQUALLED

FOR BEAUTIFYING AND ARRESTING THE FALL OF
THE HAIR
PERFUMES
IT STRENGTHENS
RENDERS SILKY

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New Preparation
neither CAUSTIC nor IRRITATING
allays pains
within 24 hours
kills the specific germs and cures more certainly and promptly than any other.
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Depôts in Buenos-Ayres: C. Perrel; Demarchi, Parodi & Co & all Chemists.

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KEATING'S LOZENGES.

KEATING'S LOZENGES.

KEATING'S LOZENGES.

"A Simple Fact about" KEATING'S COUGH LOZENGES. Ask through the world, in any country that can be named, you will find them largely sold. There is absolutely no remedy that is so speedy in giving relief, so certain to cure and yet the most delicate can take them.

"A TERRIBLE COUGH."

"A TERRIBLE COUGH."

"94 Commercial Road, Peckham, July 12.

"Dear Sir,—I am a poor hand at expressing my feelings, but I should like to thank you. Your lozenges have done wonders in relieving my terrible cough. Since I had the operation of 'Tracheotomy' (the same as the late Emperor of Germany, and unlike him, thank God, I am still alive) performed at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, no one could possibly have had a more violent cough it was so bad at times that it quite exhausted me. The mucus, which was very copious and hard, has been softened, and I have been able to get rid of it without difficulty.—I am, sir, yours truly, J. HILL,'

UTTERLY UNRIVALLED.

UTTERLY UNRIVALLED.

The above speaks for itself. From stric inquiry it appears that the benefit from using Keating's Cough Lozenges is under stated. The operation was a specially severe one, and was performed by the specialist, Dr. H. I. Butlin, of St. Bartholomew's Hospital. Since the operation the only means of relief is the use of these Lozenges. So successful are they that one affords immediate benefit although from the nature of the case the throat irritation is intense.

WEIGHT IN GOLD.

WEIGHT IN GOLD.

Under date Sept. 8th, 1891, Mr. Hill again writes:—"I should long since have been dead but for your Lozenges—they are worth their weigh in gold. I will gladly see and tell anyonewhat a splendid cough remedy they are."

Keating's Cough Lozenges, the unrivalled remedy for Coughs, Hoarseness, and Throat Troubles, are sold in Tins and Bottles by all Chemists.

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The above immense building connected with all the Railways and fully fitted with Hydraulic Cranes, and sidings for wagons, &c.—ENSURING QUICK DISCHARGE, offers GREAT ADVANTAGES TO ESTANCIEROS & CONSIGNATARIOS of GENERAL PRODUCE.

There are nine sections or Galpones, of three floors.

The third floor is, in consequence of its MAGNIFCENT LIGHT, reserved for WOOL.

GRAIN AND SKINS &c. are discharged on the two lower floors.

SIX DAYS ARE ALLOWED FREE of almacenage, after which the charges per MONTH, or PART of same are as follows:—

WOOL	per.......	10 kilos	$ 0,04
SHEEPSKINS	"	10 "	" 0,04
COW HIDES	"	100 hides	" 2,00
HORSE "	"	100 "	" 1,25
CEREALS	"	100 kilos	" 0,05
SUGAR	"	100 "	" 0,05

WARRANTS are issued on wool Skins or Grain, in deposit.

All claims for shortage IN THE MARKET are promptly attended to.

The Administration.

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Dr. J. Collis Browne's CHLORODYNE

Original and only Genuine.

Vice Chancellor Sir W. Page Wood stated publicly in Court that Dr. J. Collis Browne was undoubtedly the inventor of Chlorodyne, and that the whole story of the defendant Freeman was deliberately untrue and he regretted to say it had been sworn to.—*Times*, July 13th 1864,

Dr J. Collis Browne's Chlorodyne

The Right Hon. Earl Russell communicated to the College of Physicians and J. T. Davenport that he had received information to the effect that the only remedy of any service in cholera was Chlorodyne.—See *Lancet*, December 31st 1864.

Dr. J. Collis Browne's Chlorodyne

«I was prescribed forby scores of orthodox practioners. Of course it would not be thus singularly popular did it not «supply» awant and fill a place,»—*Medical Times*, Jan 12th 1866.

Dr. J. Collis Browne's Chlorodyne

Is the best and most certain remedy in Coughs, Colds, Asthma, Consumption, Neuralgia, Rheumatism etc.

Dr. J. Collis Browne's Chlorodyne

Is a certain cure for Diarrhœa, Cholera, Dysentery, Colic etc.

Dr. J. Collis Browne's Chlorodyne

CAUTION—None genuine without the words «Dr. J, Collis Browne's Chlorodyne» on the Government stamp. Overwhelming medical testimony accompanies each bottle.

Sole manufacturer: J. T. Davenport, 33 Great Russell st,, London.

Sold in bottles at 1s. 1½d. 2s. 9d., 4s. 6d. and 11s.

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