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The Standard.

"Nil falsi audiam, nil veri non audiam dicere."  
Cicero.

THURSDAY, APRIL 19, 1865.

THE FALL OF LOPEZ.

Some men are in advance of their age, others behind it, and both usually prove unfortunate, because the tide of human progress seems to follow a certain level, neit her rising too suddenly at any great impulse, nor allowing ought to impede its resistless current onwards. Galileo was born before his time, and Solano Lopez is a century too late.

It is not so much the Iron-clads of Brazil or bayonets of B. Ayres as the spirit of the age, which will hurl the dictator of Paraguay to the dust, for, in this 19th century, the ruler who will not guide the chariot of Progress must be yoked thereto, and Lopez is of this number. We have, it is true, frequently had occasion to mention the grand public enterprises initiated by him, the spirit of industry fomented by his Government, the nice machinery of internal administration, and the many improvements which date from his accession to power. But these were checked or counterbalanced by that traditional tyranny which was the more obnoxious as it intruded on domestic privacy and by restrictions on trade which affected the commercial world at large and Paraguay in particular. We labored neither to conceal nor excuse the defects of this system, but praised its good parts in the hope that material progress would be accompanied or followed by the breaking down of those strange barriers in laws and customs which cannot disappear in a moment. We hoped for this, from the European education of the 2nd Lopez and his repeated assurances to an Englishman whom he much esteems. Above all, we preferred even the mixture of despotism and progress to revolution and anarchy, for any kind of Government is better than civil war, and O'Connell used to say that "the liberties of the whole world are not worth a drop of human blood." In a word we accepted the Lopez Government, not for its intrinsic perfections, but that we were not sure a change would bring anything better under the circumstances, and we could not be warranted in preaching rebellion to the Paraguayans.

Lopez has, however, himself done more for the regeneration of Paraguay and his own downfall than could ever have been legitimately attempted by external means. He has rashly involved himself in a war with two powerful neighbors and by outraging all laws and treaties placed himself beyond the pale of civilization. Those who could neither claim interference in his peculiar management of his own country, nor incite his subjects to rebel, are now bound in honor to avenge the insults and upset his despotic sway. It is only a question of months when the allies shall enter Asuncion and abolish the last remnant of the tyranny begun by Francia, over 50 years ago. It is written that Francisco Solano Lopez shall either fall on the tented field with valor worthy of a better cause, or flee from his country a ruined exile. It is resolved by Brazil and La Plata to expel the last man and the last dollar in this crowning effort; and however long the struggle, there cannot be the remotest doubt of its ultimate issue.

Paraguay will certainly be the gainer; for the new order of things, instead of producing anarchy or creating a new despot, will be initiated under the direction of Dom Pedro and President Mitre, who are acknowledged the two great champions of constitutional liberty and progress in South America. It is not a war of conquest, and if it were the task would be much harder; but the destruction of Humaytá will throw open the rivers to commerce, and Asuncion will become the mart of

a great, industrious, and productive nation. Her railways and arsenal, her tram-ways and telegraphs will happily survive the Government which created them and the crisis of its overthrow, and while Paraguayans may forgive the faults of Lopez for these improvements, they will nevertheless date their regeneration from his fall, and the neighboring states will view with gratification the effects of their labors which will not prove sterile if Paraguay only imitate the liberal principles enthroned by the free peoples of Buenos Ayres and Brazil.

THE PARAGUAYAN OUTRAGE.

The aggression of Lopez in seizing two Argentine vessels and invading our territory is not only unjustifiable by its antecedents and an outrage on international law, but also a flagrant violation of the treaty solemnly concluded and ratified in 1856 between the two nations.

If within the whole circuit of the Argentine Republic there still exist a single friend of Paraguay [and only last week there were many], we feel confident such an one will be forced to change his sympathies or abjure all claims to honesty and good faith, when he reads the article of that treaty to which we allude, and which has been so shamefully trampled on by the ruler of Paraguay.

Art. 8. If unfortunately war should break out between the Argentine Confederation and the Republic of Paraguay [which God forbid], hostilities shall not be commenced by either party without six months previous notice mutually exchanged of such rupture.

In violating this compact, Lopez has not only committed an outrage on the Argentine flag, but made his Government stand arraigned before the whole civilized world for perjury. International laws and treaties cannot be violated at the caprice of a moment, and this single act of Lopez has cast a thousand times more infamy on his Government than all the stories true or false of his despotic rule which could be published in a century. He has not now a single friend on earth, for even those in foreign countries who would have stood by him in his misfortunes will turn with disgust from an act of treachery happily without precedent in even the inglorious annals of South American civil wars.

THE CATTLE BUSINESS IN THE RIVER PLATE.

It is a most alarming fact that what with the great fall in the price of dry hides, and the high rent paid for land, the great business heretofore in the River Plate, namely, 'cattle-raising,' has not only ceased to be lucrative, but is positively a losing speculation.

Our colleague, the 'Eco del Comercio,' very properly called attention to this subject last week, and proved that 1,500 head of cattle, purchased at the present low price, and fed on a league of Government land, left a loss of twenty thousand dollars a year: but we can go still further, and assert that supposing a man receives a 'rodeo' of cattle for nothing, they are not able to yield sufficient return to pay for the expense of minding them.

It is supposed that since the war has been made on us by Paraguay, cattle must improve in value here, as an article of consumption, but this can only be looked for in the immediate theatre of the war, and not in this province. The cattle raising business is in a most countries one of the most paying; but then if it is, the animals are turned to better account than mere killing purposes. Every cow in the country yields milk, that milk is manufactured into butter or cheese, and thus the animals are made to give, like the sheep, a yearly income. Unfortunately, in Buenos Ayres we have millions of cows, but owing to the habits of the country, and in a great measure to the laziness of the estancieros, they are allowed to roam at large, and receive none but the very rudest care. So long, of course, as lands were cheap and wages low, the rearing of cattle incurred little expense, gave little trouble, and yielded fair returns; but things have changed wonderfully of late in these countries, and the owner of ten thousand cows to-day, finds neither demand for his 'novillos' nor market for his hides. He decides, therefore, on disposing of such an unremunerative

stock, and when he tries to sell, to his amazement he finds no buyers. He at once comes to the conclusion that the country is going to the dogs, forgetting in toto that the only business which has been neglected and allowed to remain stationary, is his own.

No man who is acquainted with the enormous price paid in this city for butter can shut his eyes to the fact that a rodeo of milch cows would pay as well here as in England, yet nevertheless with this established truth, almost every cow in the country is allowed to run wild, and the estanciero who can afford milk for the tea or coffee used at his own house is an exception to the general rule.

It behoves the estancieros therefore to at once set about improving the breed of cattle and having all the cows on their lands immediately tamed. There are a few native gentlemen who have followed the example set by Messrs. White, Latham, Bell, Davidson and others, and we are proud to point to Sr. Martinez de Hoz, Pereira and a few others, but it is time that every cattle estanciero in the country should do the same, and the enormous stock of horned cattle in this province be turned to some advantage. An estancia with one thousand milch cows would not only pay all the expenses of caring, but yield a splendid income to the owner.

The present scandalous war which has been so forced on this country, will if it lasts long cause half the cattle in the province to become what is termed 'alzado' (wild), owing to want of peons to daily care them; why not therefore at once introduce the same custom into the cattle business, which has been proved so advantageous in the sheep, and give out rodeos of cattle on halves the same as sheep in former years.

We insist on it that one thousand head of cattle which can be brought to-day for forty thousand paper dollars, would if properly cared yield infinitely better returns than a flock of one thousand sheep. It requires but a little decision on the part of the estancieros, and we felt confident that if they adopt our suggestion the cattle-rearing in the River Plate will cease to be such a losing business as unhappily our colleague [with so much truth represents it.

EDITOR'S TABLE.

We regret to hear of another frightful murder in the Plaza Once de Setiembre. Our informant, who is a respectable Englishman, could give us no further particulars than that the victim was an elderly man who had been collecting some rents in that vicinity; his body was found close to Demarchi's mill; we understand that the police have succeeded in arresting the murderer; we hope that he will be tried and executed this week.

The well-known trader La Zingara is shortly expected out. We understand she brings a great number of passengers, one hundred and sixty or over. This will be a great boon for our friends in the camp, who probably in consequence of the war will find peons rather scarce.

Our friend Captain Taverner, of the Istria, informs us that he passed three vessels at the mouth of the river when he was coming up to Buenos Ayres, and that each of these vessels were crowded with Basque emigrants; they had each at least 200 emigrants on board.

The Pavon arrived true to her time yesterday, notwithstanding the delay she experienced in port last Sunday. We feel bound to call attention to the great punctuality with which this steamer has made her trips during the last twelve months, and hope the Government, consulting the public interest, leave her on the route. The Pavon is so regular in her trips that she is a great public convenience, and it is the interest both of the Government and the public to keep her on the Rosario route.

We have received another complaint against the Chief of Police, but we suppose until the war is over we had better decline all such communications. The present charge is simply unpoliteness to an English lady, who went to complain that the rats from a neighbouring stable-yard were fairly undermining her house. The Chief sent the fair complainant, in an authoritative tone, to the 'comisario.' This lady, very indignant at such unsympathetic

treatment, which, she says, could only be expected from Lopez himself, has demanded, as a subscriber, the privilege of blowing old Cazon up in our columns. Our fair friend seems to ignore that we are all in a state of siege, and that we must, therefore, be as mute as a mouse until the war blows over, and the confounded Paraguayans are all driven into the falls of Salto de Guayra.

The latest news we have from Rosario is that the streets are full of mud, and the townspeople awfully hard up, money extremely scarce, and collection of accounts an utter impossibility. For years past there has not been such a stringency felt in money matters as at present. The war feeling against Paraguay is strong, and people of all political shades agree in the necessity of at once shouldering a musket. Colonel Morris's beef packing establishment is hard at work, but hands are wanted badly, butchers, tinsmiths, and coopers.

The Argentine Admiral's guardship, Guardia Nacional, is undergoing the most thorough repairs. Admiral Murature is in town: his benevolent conduct when in front of Paysandú has endeared this man's name to us all. We wish him the most sanguine success in the present war, and feel confident that the Argentine banner could not be confided to safer hands.

The sale of the Royal Mail steamer Mersey to the Brazilians is freely contradicted through town. We have not had an opportunity to ask Captain Curlew, but if she is sold, we hope he will favor us with the price.

All the importing houses having arms for sale will now have a good opportunity to realize, as the Commissary-General has published a notice, offering to buy up all the arms in town. The President has cancelled the exequator of the Paraguayan Consuls.

We regret to learn that the talented and popular photographers, Messrs. Bate & Co., of Montevideo, have been robbed of a large amount of money. The news, when it spread through the Mount, caused the most profound sensation, as the members of this firm are deservedly popular in that city. The thief we hear is an Englishman. The evidence against the fellow is of a purely negative character.

We are informed on good authority that a splendid building will shortly be erected in Calle Florida for the London, Buenos Ayres and River Plate Bank, and that plans of the building have arrived by the packet. Unfortunately we are on the worst terms with this bank, so there is little chance of our being able to give our readers a description of the proposed edifice, which from what we hear we suppose will be one of the most magnificent in this city.

On Tuesday Sor Egnusquiza was taken to the Policia, his goods in the Custom-house and papers at the Paraguayan agency embargoed; but he was released shortly after on bail of Sor Sagnier. The captain of the Esmeralda was also arrested, and the officer Araya who was in charge of the armament destined for Humaytá.

The 'National' states that Pres. Mitre will take the field in a few days and establish his head-quarters at Coucordia, Entre Rios.

Two volunteer battalions of Argentines and Italians are being equipped in Montevideo for the war, and 6,000 Brazilian troops are hourly expected from Rio to reinforce the army of occupation.

The Pavon was taken up yesterday by Government, and a new decree divides the city into 6 'cuartels'. Gainza and Arenas are named to command the two battalions of camp Nat. Guards.

Considerable apprehension is felt for the safety of Sr. Dn. Anaeraxis Lanuz, who it may be remembered went up in the steamer Salto to Paraguay last trip; the conduct of the Paraguayan Government has taken us so completely aback that it is very possible Mr. Lanuz and the President of Matto Grosso dine at the same table. We hope and trust however that this much respected gentleman will not meet such a gloomy fate.

PRES. MITRE'S SPEECH TO THE BRAZILIAN ENVOY.

At the reception of the new Brazilian minister on Tuesday, mentioned in yesterday's paper, Sor Octoviano pronounced a flattering address on the

part of the Emperor of Brazil to the President of the Republic. His Excellency, Gen. Mitre, replied as follows: Señor Ministro,

I receive with sincere satisfaction the letter of your august sovereign accrediting you as Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary near the Argentine Republic, and I gratefully accept the generous and cordial wishes expressed by you for the honor of the nation I govern.

With the elevated ideas and noble sentiment which you manifest I have no doubt your mission will prove a new bond of union and amity between the Empire of Brazil and the Argentine Republic, both countries being alike interested in the independence and peace of their neighbors as well as present as for the future, in the constitutional order and liberty of all American States, and in this particular I am happy to offer you whatever co-operation you may require from the Argentine Government for the accomplishment of such high and laudable purposes.

With such feelings, and offering the most fervent prayers to Heaven for the prosperity and aggrandizement of the generous Brazilian nation and the felicity of your august sovereign, Dom Pedro II, I salute in your distinguished person the worthy representative of a free people, united to us by grateful memories, identical interests and common glories, which form the most solid basis for an alliance of principles and purposes both now and hereafter.

CIRCULAR TO THE FOREIGN MINISTER.

Department of Foreign Affairs Buenos Ayres, April 18th 1865.

To His Ex. the Minister of—; The undersigned Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs has received special command from His Excellency the President of the Argentine Republic to address you as follows:

Whereas the Argentine Government intent on a neutral policy in the war between the Republic of Paraguay and the Empire of Brazil, maintained this country on a peace-footing and merely demanded from Paraguay a friendly explanation relative to the large forces stationed on our frontier, the Government of Paraguay has meantime, without giving any reply and in violation of treaties and of all the usages of civilized nations, penetrated with armed force into the territory of the Republic, seizing two steamers of the Argentine fleet anchored in the port of Corrientes, firing upon that defenceless town, and thus declaring an unjustifiable war against the Republic with which up to that moment it preserved peaceful relations.

This unprecedented deed places the National Government in the necessity of hastening [to defend its threatened territory and vindicate by arms the honor and dignity of the Republic thus outraged.

The Argentine Government, conscious of its right and strength, accepts the war provoked by the Paraguayan Government; and will prosecute it with all the energy demanded by this aggression on the sovereignty of the Republic; leaving to the impartial decision of the Foreign Agents accredited near this Government, the appreciation of those facts which have forced us to abandon the policy of neutrality hitherto invariably observed in the questions of neighboring countries.

The Government trusts that the peace now momentarily disturbed will soon be restored and prove more fruitful in results, for the commercial relations with foreign states and the development of national progress.

In fulfilling the orders of H.E. the President of the Republic,

The undersigned has the honor, etc.,

RUFINO DE ELIZALDE.

MONTEVIDEO.

Standard Office, Montevideo.

April 18th, 1865.

From the many strange events which have come to pass within the last few weeks, it would have required but a little to create a sensation, but anything to equal the excitement which prevailed last night I never have beheld. About six yesterday evening a Brazilian gunboat entered our harbour colors flying; a rumour immediately went abroad that she had brought down despatches of the utmost importance. Immediately there was a rush for the mole, hundreds flocked to hear

the news. Such a crowd had assembled that the rotten old edifice shook to its very foundation. By this time a boat had put off from the Brazilian and was fast approaching the mole, then what a struggle! pushing, jostling, swearing, hundreds trying who should be first to gain the intelligence. The Brazilians landed, rushed up the ladder, gave three cheers for the Emperor and three more for the Argentine Republic. Lo and behold! the mystery is unravelled, cried one—The Brazilians have seized President Mitre and conquered the Argentine Republic. Bye and bye people got nearer to the truth, and at last the astounding intelligence that the Paraguayans had seized "the Argentine Navy" became known. On its receipt the excitement became a little less, which means that the crowd was so taken aback by this so sudden shock, that not one of those who composed it could for several minutes give utterance to their feelings, so completely were they overpowered by this unparalleled piece of audacity. Before seven in the evening the news was all over the town; little boys ran about screeching in shrill tones, "Great news from the Argentine Republic." Rockets went up, whether it was in anticipation of Lopez's downfall, or merely meant as an Oriental friendly demonstration it is difficult to say. Catherine wheels, and goodness only knows what other ingenious fireworks were let off, they fizzed and burst in a manner which seemed to perfectly harmonize with the wishes of the immense crowd which was congregated in the Plaza. A magnificent balloon was let off and consigned to "Solano Lopez & Cia., Paraguay." It is said to have contained President Mitre's enthusiastic declaration and call to arms. At this moment the excitement was so intense, the crowd so great, that one would fancy something dreadful would occur. The 'vigilantes' turned out in their new and glittering uniforms, strutted about in the most cockish manner on the mole. I can safely affirm that it was a most creditable demonstration. The greatest delight was exhibited by the boys on their hearing of the war; several youngsters formed volunteer corps and gave us a sample of what they could do did their country require it. However, seriously viewing this question, it has without doubt completely taken every one aback. People will hardly give their opinion on the subject, it appears so brazen and so audacious. Had Lopez contented himself with awaiting such a step on the part of the Argentine Government they would have called him a fool, but now that he has taken the initiative in this matter and literally speaking completely destroyed the Argentine Navy, people say that he is a clever, double-dyed rascal; strange suspicions have been excited by this last and to a great extent unprovoked action of his: it is rumored that he is not quite so utterly dependant on his own resources as some River Plate politicians choose to assert; but that he can largely draw both money and men from a quarter hitherto represented to have been strongly prejudiced against his Government. In a word, it is said that if Lopez has an Emperor for an enemy, he has another for a friend. I really cannot say what amount of credit can be attached to this astounding assertion. To me it would seem perfectly unfounded. But Lopez's sudden audacity; the cool, premeditated manner in which he has possessed himself of the Argentine vessels, and several other less important items would lead one to suspect, that at all events he may have some hopes of assistance from some powerful quarter. But the idea of his being intimately connected with a foreign power of the highest standing, would appear perfectly preposterous. The most conflicting opinions are emitted regarding the Paraguayan question. The majority, however, severely censure this last step, which has secured for Paraguay another powerful enemy.

The Brazilian Minister has notified to the Oriental Government that from the 14th inst. the Imperial ships will establish the blockade. Governor Flores responded, sanctioning this measure. Twenty days has been allowed to all foreign vessels loading in Paraguayan ports to retire. Certainly things look rather cloudy for Para-



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