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TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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The Standard.

"Nil fallit animum, nil veri non animum dicitur."

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 31, 1866.

APPALLING DUST STORM.

UNEXAMPLED PANIC IN BUENOS AYRES. CASUALTIES AND LOSSES.

On Monday evening our city was visited with the most terrific phenomenon ever known in this or perhaps any other country. No pen can attempt to convey to those who have not seen it even the faintest idea of this awful storm, which, while it lasted, seemed to indicate that the world was at an end and chaos came again. All that we read about sand-storms in the East, or the darkness of Egypt in the time of Pharaoh, fades before the remembrance of this, the most appalling, unearthly, and supernatural scene that can ever be presented to mortal vision. Even the oldest inhabitants of Buenos Ayres, so accustomed to dust-storms, were seized with the utmost terror, never having experienced anything approaching to it in horror and intensity.

The storm of course was most felt in the country and suburbs, but even in the midst of this large and populous city the most unspeakable alarm succeeded the sudden darkness and furious hurricane which seemed to threaten universal destruction. If it was really the Day of General Judgment, the visitation could not have been more, sudden or the confusion greater.

For several hours previous there were indications of a storm, all around the horizon, and at 10 minutes past 5, masses of dust-clouds passed rapidly overhead, coming from the S. W. Then almost as quick as lightning all was enveloped in total darkness: we cannot find a word to express the thick, palpable, obscuring (of which the darkest night is only a faint image) which hung over and around all. No one could attempt to move or even seek shelter, but all stood rooted to the ground. Mothers who had rushed to the doors, looking for their children, could not find their way back. People in the streets had to remain there, most of the doors being shut; and the wind was so dreadful that the strongest brick edifices quaked and shook, as if about to topple over and bury all their inmates in the ruins.

The scenes in the coffee-houses, shops, &c. baffled description. It being dinner-hour, the hotels were crowded, and in the confusion no candles could be got; neither could the gas be lighted, as it was before the hour for turning it on. Meantime the zinc roofs, glass, &c. were blown about in all directions. At the Hotel de Paris when the glass-roof fell in, it was thought the house was falling, and people rushed about madly: some jumped from the corridor into the 'patio,' and Mr. Shoobridge, of the River Plate Bank, rescued several ladies who were dreadfully alarmed: an Englishman had his leg badly cut by falling glass. At the Hotel de la Paix another gentleman had a narrow escape of falling downstairs, on leaving his room, and shovels of candles' rang through the building in vain. The Colon coffee-house shook to its foundations, while 6 men endeavored to keep the doors shut and a quantity of bottles was swept to the ground. But it would fill a volume to repeat the occurrences related to us.

It happened that we were surprised by the storm, in the Boca railway-station, having left the Standard office as usual in time for the 5 o'clock train. We reached the Boca without any anticipation of so dreadful a storm, but

had hardly left the Boca when the Cimbric darkness involved us, engines, coaches and all, in a thick pall. It was impossible to stop the train at once, but the driver slackened speed and we pushed up the curve towards the main-line, in face of the storm. We breathed heavily, the atmosphere being dust, and anticipated equal risk of death from suffocation, collision with the other locomotive coming down, or being hurled by the hurricane into the river. Happily the engine-driver did not for a moment lose his presence of mind, but kept up a deafening whistle and stopped the train at the junction. For 12 minutes that the blackness lasted, we suffered great anxiety in the train, and would have given any money to be able to get out and grope for shelter.

At 5.22 daylight began to glimmer through the murky canopy of dust, and in five minutes more we could see each other distinctly. The train then moved back towards the city, and we found the second locomotive had very wisely gone off the main line on a sliding near the brick-kiln. After a short stay we pushed on for Barracas, giving time to the porters to remove a shed which had fallen across the line. The whole way bore evidence of the fury of the hurricane, in broken sheds, &c., lying about, and the rain now descended in torrents.

The Calle Larga of Barracas was strewn with broken trees and 'debris,' gates levelled, and roofs torn off. Marshall's navy-yard was partly stripped of the zinc covering, and the Barraca Balcarce had also suffered. The half of a wooden house was blown away at Tres Esquinas. Trees were uprooted in front of the Miguens, Segovia, and Fernandez quintas, and a patriarchal Ombu, in the last-named was levelled, after having stood the storms of ages. Mr. Elizalde lost some pillars of masonry blown into the 'Standard' quinta, and peach-trees were hurled about in various directions. The confusion was increased by several children and servants being missing, but in most cases they were recovered soon after without hurt or injury.

The 'Tribuna' states that a young man committed suicide, from fright, during the storm, and that only three children have been lost. The great destruction to life and property must have been in the Campagna, from which we may be prepared for appalling reports before many days. In the suburbs numerous casualties are mentioned, as also in port, but the city escaped almost uninjured. No milkmen came into town yesterday morning, which shews that the cows and horses mostly got astray, running before the storm.

The Northern Railway suffered much. Palermo platform blown away and 2 men killed. Belgrano station carried away and the electric wires broken. Tigre shed blown on to the line, stopping traffic: the passengers per Ibiicy had to embark yesterday at San Fernando. The house and out-offices of D. Manuel Cabrera, some wind-mills, and a large Ombu at Belgrano, have been swept down.

On the Southern Railway the train was caught near Jeppener, and although the engine broke down, the train was driven along for miles, but did not run off the track. Horses, sheep &c. ran before the storm wildly, and the sight was terrific, trees flying about on all sides. At the Plaza Constitucion a shed was blown away, some old houses tumbled, and several casualties occurred to the bullock-carts.

The Western Railway has had the stations of Moron and Merlo unroofed, also a shed in the Plaza Once: 40 persons were in the Merlo station when the roof and pillars were carried away, but happily all escaped unhurt. The turret of Moreno church is blown down.

At Mr. Coffin's in Moron, a man was blown from the top of the mill, but luckily not hurt. Mr. O's bee-hives were capsized.

At the Tigre, the roof of Dr. Scrivenor's house was blown away and some sheds blown on to the railway. Owing to the unceasing efforts of Mr. Griffin the 2nd train ran as usual.

The storm caught the train near Los Olivos, but owing to the great care of

the driver William, to whom every praise is due, no accident happened. The steamer Rio Parana caught a horse with harness on, swimming out from the mole.

One of the 'Tribuna' staff was in a small boat bound for the Rio Parana when the storm came, as the river was shallow he jumped out and remained in the water until the darkness ceased. The loss in the river is very severe. Two of Casaros' lighters were capsized.

A small boat in the roads upset, and it is feared all hands drowned. The captain of an American barge threw out a buoy, but all to no purpose.

The schooner Carlota capsized in the roads; several vessels have gone to her relief.

A lighter, with wool bales of Sr. Hoewel was capsized in the canal.

A pilot-boat in the harbor was also blown over, captain and three sailors drowned.

Another pilot-boat of Sr. Hoewel also supposed to be lost: no trace of her.

The boat of a Spanish vessel, with pilot and three sailors, capsized in the roads: all lost but one man, picked up by an American outside.

A lighter, with bone-ash gone down in the Pozos.

The pilot-boat Moro lost near the Boca.

The Portefa was out in the storm. Mr. Ackerley, who was on board, testifies to her sea-worthiness. She weathered the storm bravely, and he says she is beyond all question the best and safest boat in the river. Captain Scuirano deserves the highest praise.

In the outer roads three lighters sunk. Two barques (owing to the heavy mist this morning names unknown), jib-boom gone; a schooner capsized in the inner roads, all hands saved. A boat belonging to the barque James Carty, left the mole a little before the blow, but was unable to reach the vessel: the poor fellows came ashore this morning, after being tossed about all night on the river. The 'falua,' belonging to the Captain of the Port was upset; all hands and boat saved. Capt. Wilson, of the barque Union, and a Spanish captain's lady and child had a narrow escape coming from the outer roads in a large whaleboat; during the passage the boat was half-filled with water. Sad hopes are entertained of a poor fellow who was seen struggling with the waves in the outer roads: as he passed each vessel, oars, buckets, planks, &c., was thrown him, but it is feared he has not been saved. The Professor Suringham was run into by a schooner, damage trifling.

The Arno held her anchorage, and never stirred during the fearful blow. We hear of few lives lost. A woman is reported killed in Barracas, besides two injured; and 2 washerwomen drowned on the beach. The plantations of the Retiro and Paseo Colon have hundreds of trees torn up by the roots. The Plaza Parque and Libertad also bear marks of the fury of the wind.

One of our printers happened to be bathing off the mole, when the storm came on, and has had his leg sprained. Numbers of people have received contusions, but very few are missing. The turrets of Lezama's quinta and the Hotel de la Paix have survived the gale, although it is ascertained that its greatest fury passed about 100 feet above the ground.

Most people say that such a storm was never before felt in Buenos Ayres, but some think it was not much worse than the famous one of 1832. On January 8th 1843 there was also a dreadful dust-storm. But the strangest fact is that Mr. Lettson, II. B. M. Chargé d'affaires at Montevideo (who is an eminent astronomer) distinctly predicted this awful phenomenon on Monday morning, as Capt. Scuirano testifies in a letter in the 'Nacional': the Captain also states that the storm first overtook him at 7 p.m. about 5 miles from Montevideo, again at 10 p.m. about 18 miles out; and finally the thick dust-cloud about 11.30 on Monday night.

D. Manuel Eguia, Argentine astronomer, says the dust-cloud had an angular extent of 60 to 70 degrees, and that its force was 'nine to ten,' being equal to the strongest hurricane.

THE WAR IN THE NORTH.

ARRIVAL OF THE ESMERALDA.

ARMY & SQUADRON IN STAY QUO.

Yesterday the long looked for steamer Esmeralda arrived at 4 past 1 o'clock p.m., the mole was crowded but as the steamer was not decked out with flags people came to the conclusion that it was the old story 'nothing done.' The falua arrived at the mole at 3 o'clock, and the Deputy Captain of the Port in a clean stentorian voice stated No Hay Nada. Loud and clear were the imprecations of the bystanders on the squadron and Baron Tamandaré when it was known that neither the ships nor the Baron had moved from their anchorage, but when it was stated that there was a grand dinner instead of a grand battle, the indignation of the crowd knew no bounds.

We received a letter from Sinbad which we have no room for to-day, but we give subjoined his telegrams written on the quarter-deck of the Esmeralda as she was weighing anchor. Corrientes, March 16th.

Gentlemen, I have so arranged as to get a note daily of what is passing at Ensenadas. In a day or so I will go the Paso de la Patria with Mr. Washburne. I do not mean to stop, I want to be here until the fleet moves: for the last eight days they have been going every day. Our Governor is supposed to be inclined to resign. The Brazilian Minister is not liked by the Argentines. At present everyone does pretty much as he likes. I send you the autograph of the Villa Yista assassin. Yours truly, SINBAD.

The 'Tribuna' bulletin printed in Corrientes and distributed on the mole gives the following: The squadron has not stirred and is still at anchor in front of Corrientes.

The army is still the same old 6s. 8d., no change whatever. The elements for crossing the river are all ready.

On St. Patrick's Day Gen. Osorio gave a grand banquet in his tent to President Mitre: Baron Tamandaré, and Minister Octaviano were there.

It was believed by people in Corrientes (infatigable) that the army would cross the river on the 25th [the day Tamandaré was to be in Asuncion], and the squadron to go up on St. Patrick's Day, the 17th March.

Minister Octaviano's scheme is to take Lopez alive and send him to Rio. The steamer Uruguay received 20,000 patacons for taking up the Entre Riano contingent.

Mr. Washburne is at Corrientes. The Commander-in-Chief of the Brazilian Artillery was buried on the 9th with all military honors.

The Paraguayans keep very quiet of late, but all sorts of rumors about Barrios and the Baron Port Alegre are current.

Gold very abundant. Coals nearly all burnt up.

LATEST FROM CHILE.

(Spanish version.)

BOMBARDMENT OF THE WEST COAST.

REVOLUTION IN FAVOR OF SPAIN.

The 'España' of Sunday gives a very different version from that of the Chilean papers, respecting the state of affairs on the West Coast and the doings of the Spanish war-vessels. It is unnecessary to remind our readers that we cannot give entire credence to either the Spanish or the Chilean version, but must follow the golden rule of Virgil 'in medio stat virtus', and by drawing a line between the two we shall be less liable to mystification. We gave yesterday the Chilean version: that of the 'España' is as follows:

The Numancia has destroyed the forts of Tomé, Talcahuano and Lebu. The Blanca sank the Peruvian corvette Aprimac, and re-captured the Covadonga, but the latter could not be kept afloat owing to her disabled condition, and went down abreast of Valdivia, after the guns were taken out of her, almost in view of the Chilean forts. The Blanca also destroyed two batteries erected by the Chileans, mounting severally 11 and 9 guns. The Spanish marines landed several times at Chiloe and were received with friendly demonstrations by the natives,

who cried 'Viva España,' as the original. We hold our own opinions still, and repeat that the late onslaught on the Bank and the reputation of the Directors would only be tolerated in Buenos Ayres. The Bank needs reform, but let us not begin by smashing it, and causing general bankruptcy.

The Marques de Victoria entered the port of Lota and quietly fished up three fixed torpedoes and one that was floating, during the night. She then seized the coal-bunks of the Chileans, taking all their supply. The Chileans admit their loss in the first engagement at Chiloe to have been 80 killed and 130 wounded. The pursuer of the Resolution, who came ashore in disguise, says that the Madrid received 4 shots, and the Blanca 3, all in the bulwarks, that the fight lasted 3 hours, and the loss of the Spaniards did not exceed 6 killed and 18 wounded. The Peruvian vessel Amazonas was lost by running on a reef: the Lantaro, formerly Lerzundi, has blown up; and the Esmeralda is half full of water and unserviceable.

It is not true that the Republics of New Granada and Ecuador have joined the alliance against Spain, as the Chileans pretend: on the contrary they have emphatically refused, and forbidden the sale of privateer prizes in their ports.

The Araucanian tribes have revolted against the Chilean domination and presented themselves in large groups to pronounce in favor of Spain. This is partly acknowledged by the Chilean journals, and the 'Semenario' of Valdivia, Jan. 22nd has the following:—

It is rumored that a band of 200 Indians from the interior have seized Villa Rica and intend attacking San José, possibly to descend afterwards on this city (Valdivia). The missionary-fathers have taken alarm at these movements and fled from San José and Pelchuquin to Calle-calle.

The same paper two days later says:— We have to confirm the rumors about the Indian invasions and advise the authorities to be on the alert. The arrival of Huentén's brothers at Villa Rica with a numerous retinue is not only to avenge the recent death of said cacique, but to make a general rising, in which the Christian Indians are also concerned. For the last two months the Araucanians have betrayed symptoms of revolution, and these are traced to the agency of certain Spanish emissaries who have been seen beyond the river. It is well at least that the authorities should be on their guard against any eventuality. Dr. Antil is said to be at the head of the movement in favor of Spain, in Chiloe and the southern provinces.

The Valparaiso papers admit that when the Villa Madrid went for fresh water to the Island of Juan Fernandez (the abode of Alexander Selkirk) they found the inhabitants dying of hunger and gave them biscuits and other provisions.

The British war-steamer Sharp-shooter has arrived at Montevideo from Rio. The steamer Romulo is loading in the Boca for Rosario. The convenience of loading steamers in the Boca is now so apparent, that we are glad to see many of our river steamers take in cargo there.

To-day M. Pfeiffer and Madame Altieri Pfeiffer leave for Montevideo, 'en route' for Rio. We regret sincerely they depart so soon, and hope they will soon return to the Plate, where they have gained such a reputation. Mr. Bagley, the renowned 'Hesperidina' man, has gained his lawsuit, and embargoed the plates, labels, &c., of the false 'Hesperidina.'

In San Nicolas there has been a fearful row between the editor of the 'Amigo del Pueblo' and the Judge. His Worship wanted to try the newspaper summarily for some articles about pocketing fines, &c.; but, as a matter of course, the editor declined the jurisdiction, and now we hear that our colleague threatens to bring an action for damages against the unfortunate judge.

We hear that the courts have just decided a suit brought by the descendants of a wealthy Spanish shoemaker against the Government for an enormous amount. The original claim was six hundred thousand patacons, but with the accumulation of interest the claim now is millions. As far as we can get at the facts, the name of the Spaniard was Villanueva, who hid away in his garden a large box of ounces. The Government seized the ounces, and the heirs, who are some of the wealthiest people in Buenos Ayres, have brought this suit. Dr. Dn. Francisco Elizalde is the lawyer of the claimants, who has so successfully carried on the suit, that the National Government will have to pay the entire amount with interest.

An English gentleman, a resident of Belgrano, bears testimony to the efficiency of Sr. Oliver, the judge of that place, and requests us to state that the Government could have no more active judge. His efforts to preserve order, and rid Belgrano of thieves and robbers, have been so crowned with success, that Belgrano is the most orderly town in the province; besides this, through the untiring exertions of Mr. Oliver the present new church has been undertaken. We readily make room for this statement, as it comes to us from an impartial source. Still we feel bound to say that there are many who complain of Mr. Oliver, for what cause we cannot say, but suppose for being too straight-laced and over-exacting.

The extravagant valuations put on property for the purposes of assessing the 'Contribucion Directa' tax, is one of the principal causes why householders so studiously avoid improving the fronts of their houses. We have been frequently struck with the very humble appearance of some of the most commodious houses, and at last learn the real cause: an unwhitewashed house, with dilapidated plaster outside, no matter how magnificent within, escapes the avaricious eye of the appraiser, but a new gate or an iron railing before one's door often raises the valuation fifty per cent. and over.

Our French colleague charges a lottery agent in Calle Suipacha with the most downright swindling: it seems that a fortunate Gaul drew a small prize in the last lottery and took the ticket to the agency to get some more tickets and the money. He handed it to the agent, who at once compared it with the list and declared that it drew nothing. The Frenchman, who knew the number, saw that the fellow had changed the ticket, and at once made a great noise. He was summarily ejected sin ticket and sin money. We caution our readers against these agencies.

Mr. Billingham has not yet returned from his trip to the South. Several persons have called on us enquiring at what price the Cacique Negro estancia was sold, but as yet we have not heard an Englishman, whose estancia adjoins the land in question states that the camps out there are in splendid condition, plenty of grass and water, and no fear whatever of a drought.

A close observer of passing events has remarked to us the great diminution in private carriages since the war commenced, and it is a fact that the private carriages are each day diminishing in number, chiefly owing to the scandalous pavement in the streets, and also the very enormous expense attendant on keeping a coach. A small carriage, with one pair of horses and a coachman, cannot be kept under, at the lowest estimate, two thousand and five hundred dollars per month, and it does not take very long to count the families in Buenos Ayres who can afford this expense. Hay, one thousand dollars a ton; maize, one hundred to one hundred and fifty dollars the fanega; axletrees and springs break every month, and coachmen as scarce as cooks—a man must be a nabob to be able to drive his coach in Buenos Ayres. Our most fashionable brokers and barragueros never attempt anything grander than a two-wheeled gig.

About half-past one on Monday a Spanish cartman was killed at the corner of the Plaza 25 de Mayo. It seems the harness of one of the horses got disarranged, when the poor fellow alighted to arrange it, and unfortunately slipped under the wheel: the horses started and the cart (loaded) passed over him. His remains were conveyed to the Policia.

The Supreme Court has decided in favor of the French paper, and given the editor 15 days' time to produce proofs.

Mr. Carman requests us to say that he is not the American gentleman who found fault with our Montevidean correspondent, using the word 'oxen,' which has caused such a ludicrous discussion.

MUNICIPALITY.

On Monday the Board met, Sor Peña in the chair, the following members being present: Messrs. Azucnagari, Aguirre, Azoa, Amoedo, Drab-

ble, Hale, Herrera, Lauze, Leslie, Lomandini and Repetto.

After assigning to the various Committees several matters on hand, the project of street-tramways sent back by the Provincial Government was taken up, and the Board resolved to submit it to the committees of Public Works and Finance, for consideration.

It was resolved to distribute the project of a Southern cemetery as advised by the Health committee, and also a proposal of the committee of Public Works relative to side-walks.

It was resolved to lay before the Assessor several documents for the demolition of sundry walls and buildings in a ruinous condition.

A sum of 5,000\$ was granted, for the purpose of repairing the road near the Alayla, in Barracas.

Some minor matters were then disposed of, and the meeting broke up.

MONTEVIDEO.

The Chilean cruiser—Ghost at the cemetery—Banks and bank-notes—The Capurro water-scheme—McColl's tramway—The Frenchman's wife—Opposition to Lamas—Balls in embryo—Brazilian rioters—Miscellaneous.

The good folk who were at first so incredulous about the Chilean cruiser were thrown into alarm on Thursday by the announcement that she was distinctly seen from the tower of the Matriz church, hovering about as if watching the mouth of the river. The captain of the Brazilian transport Recife stated he had passed her near Point Indio and was convinced of her evil purposes. Finally the pilot Garcia made a declaration at the Capitanía that he had seen her off and on at the mouth of the Plata and when he hoisted sail to go and offer his services she speedily ran out of sight. In this juncture the case seemed no longer to admit of doubt, and the Spanish gunboat Wad Ras went out to reconnoitre the stranger. We are not informed whether she overhauled her, but the 'Pueblo' of Saturday evening published a notice to calm the public agitation, to the effect that the mysterious steamer was no other than an American, which had negligently entered the river without saluting the Admiral's pennant, for which the Admiral has ordered her to lie about near Maldonado for the term of 40 days.

Another topic has caused no little excitement: the revival of the ghost alarm at the cemetery. The most hideous and appalling stories have been current for some days, and at length on Friday night a body of 6 policemen was despatched to the scene. When the town-clocks struck the hour of midnight the white spectre appeared, fire rushing from the sockets of its eyes, &c. One of the police attempted to fire a pistol-shot, but failed in the effort, another of the number was also panic-stricken, and the ghost walked down the street, knocked at a door, and then disappeared. Next night a Commissary lay in wait, and an inquisitive Englishman, who approached for the same purpose took fright and was pursued by the commissary's men, who picked up his hat and stick. As yet the mystery remains unsolved.

The Italian Bank promises to be very successful: General Urquiza has taken 100 shares, and this packet will convey orders to Europe for the notes, &c. The Montevidean Bank began issuing its new notes on Saturday: they are of a very superior quality; the Bank has raised its rate of interest (see advertisement).

Favorable comments are made by all the city journals with reference to Sr. Capurro's water-scheme. He proposes to supply the whole city with pipe-water from his springs at the Aguada, at a charge not exceeding 20 pence English per hogshead of 124 gallons: the whole to be completed within 18 months, under penalty of 20,000\$. He deposits a guarantee of 50,000\$, and intenders, in case of acceptance, leaving for England by this packet to get the pipes, engines &c. constructed. He demands no monopoly, and the conditions seem very fair. The Junta has had two meetings on the subject and will probably accept the project.

Mr. McColl is determined to carry out his projected tramway to Union, which will be a great boon to the citizens, as soon as the paving &c. be completed. Trees and seats are to be put down on each side of the road. The

'Junta' continues its labors actively: a new school is ordered to be built at Maroflas, and a bridge over the Arroyo Pantanoso. The Foreign races take place on the 3rd prox. and promise to be first-rate, several fine horses being already entered.

The question about the Frenchman's wife, charged with eloping from Buenos Aires with 50,000\$, has been amicably settled, the husband getting back half the sum, the Chief of Police pronouncing a divorce *ex mens et thoro*, and the wife going home to Paris.

A fierce opposition is waged by all the papers against the rumored appointment of Don Andres Lamas as Minister to Brazil: it is likely, that if named, he will yield to the storm, and resign.

Several balls are on the tapis. Admiral Riccardi is going to give one on board the Regina, the Club Libertad another, and the new Bolsa when finished is to be inaugurated with a splendid *sorée*. The Mercado del Puerto is being rapidly constructed, and will be the finest in S. America.

Brazilian riots occur daily with the police, sometimes amounting to regular *mélees*: on Friday night there was a terrible conflict near the barrack, the police being repulsed, and the latter by mistake afterwards fell on an Englishman named Luke Bell, whom they badly wounded. It is very disgraceful that the Brazilians are allowed to go about with arms.

Some North American navy officers are accused by the 'Opinion' of an outrage on a French hair-dresser, who was sitting in front of his shop: they took him, chair and all, and flung him into the street, but escaped with impunity. A terrible occurrence took place in the prison, one convict stabbing another with a knife: the wounded man has been removed to the Caridad Hospital. Again we ask, why are prisoners allowed knives and weapons? A cartman was accidentally killed on Saturday, his cart passing over him. Mr. Morgan the dentist complains that the courts have mulcted him heavily, and says "justice is better administered in the U. States." It is said that the Committee for sending articles to the Paris Exhibition has not held a single session since its appointment, last year.

The Italian gunboat Ereole leaves for Valparaiso on the 24th, the corvette-Principe Humberto goes home to Genoa shortly. The French war-steamer Astrée has also orders to return to Brest before the end of the month. H.B.M. steamer Sharp-shooter arrived from Rio on Saturday. The Italian barque Nina Figari has concluded her quarantine. The Edward-Herbert arrived from Liverpool on Monday. The Eugenia from St. John's on Saturday, with pine, for Zimmermann.

It was ascertained that the Rio del Plata had grounded at Chapicuil, below the Hervidero, in the Uruguay, where she was detained two days: she will not leave until Friday night.

JUSUFIFIABLE HOMICIDE.

IMPRISONMENT FOR 10 MONTHS.

The tribunals of Montevideo have at length decided the case of Mr. George Elliott, who has suffered an unjust imprisonment of 10 months for having killed a gaucho in self-defence. This is another instance of the absurd and iniquitous system of our criminal legislation, which is subversive of the most sacred and universal of all rights, that of self-defence. We must forsooth stand powerless before the dagger of the assassin, and offer ourselves an unresisting victim, or incur a tedious imprisonment if forced to kill a 'matrero' or wayside cut-throat. But the document itself requires no comments: we may say with a learned writer of antiquity "Tolle et lege."

Criminal Court—Montevideo March 10th 1866.

In the case of George Elliott charged with having killed Aparicio Chirino, the Judges, Doctors Vasquez, Esparaguera, Lavilla, Olave, and Perez, have decided as follows:

1st. It is proved that George Elliott killed Aparicio Chirino with a pistol shot on the 6th of May 1865, at Guayabos, in the department of Durazno.

2nd. It is proved that Chirino was the aggressor and cause of the conflict.

3rd. It is proved that Chirino attacked Elliott with an iron-headed whip.

4th. It is proved that he struck Elliott some blows on the head with said whip before Elliott made use of his arms.

5th. It is proved that Elliott is, and has always been, a man of irreproachable character.

Therefore, in conformity with the laws, said George Elliott is hereby absolved of all crime or penalty, and the offence is considered sufficiently purged and satisfied by the imprisonment (of 10 months) which he has already suffered; and on payment of the costs of this suit, which shall be duly taxed, he is to be set at liberty.

And whereas the Alcalde Ordinario of Durazno has been guilty of a dereliction of duty in this matter, it is ordered that he shall receive a severe reprimand and be advised in future to act according to law.

Given at M. Video, March 10th 1866.
LAUDELINO VAZQUEZ.

TAXES IN BELGRANO.

Belgrano, March 17, 1866.
To the Editors of the 'Standard'.
Gentlemen,
In your 'Editor's Table' of to-day you say that this village must be overwhelmed with taxes, since the annual revenue amounts to \$400,000 inc, in so very small a 'partido.'

In reply I beg to inform you that no taxes are levied in Belgrano save those dictated by law, and common to the whole Campagna, which you must be moreover aware are very light, such as 'patentes,' &c.

The revenue of Belgrano arises from the rental of Municipal properties, including the valuable estate of Palermo, and the still more valuable Charcarita or College-lands, which are all leased to tenants, and yield a handsome income, being so close to the city.

Nor is any one weighed down with oppressive rents, since the tenants have offered such prices at their own free will; and if you are surprised to see so large a sum as \$400,000 in the Municipal chest, you may be convinced it is because the public revenues are well taken care of, and properly administered.

I trust this explanation will save you the trouble of demanding an investigation by Government to lighten our oppressed rate-payers, and take this occasion to offer you any further particulars should you think fit to honor us with a visit to the Juzgado of Belgrano.

Yours attentively,
SIGMA.

THE DROUGHT IN THE SOUTH.

Estancia del "Consul,"
March 17th.

Gentlemen,
In perusing your edition of to-day, much to my surprise I saw the following statement in your second column of "Editor's table"—"Mr. Jeppener and other Estancieros near the Railway have lost heavily," alluding to the losses of sheep generally sustained in this province. Had my name not have been so prominently brought forth, I certainly should not have troubled you on the subject, but, as far as I am personally concerned, the statement that I have "lost heavily" is quite incorrect, as, up to the present, I have not lost in my whole establishment in consequence of the 'seca,' any animals at all, of any description, so that you have been misinformed, and I trust your informant will be more careful in his selection of names for the future. What might follow if this dry weather continues is another matter entirely.

An inference from your further statement might easily be drawn to the effect that my camp, or rather "campo," is overstocked, and that "the very best and finest class of sheep" do not figure here at all. In both respects, the reader of your article would be lead into a grave mistake, as ample provision is always made, in the "stocking" of my Estancia, that the number of animals on same shall never be more than what can be well sustained in a bad season—in a good season, I have more land than is necessary for my stock, and as to "class" of animal, the name of my establishment is of sufficient repute to defy any doubt on the matter.

I merely mention these facts to show how foolish it is to give information of an Estancia which is very likely not known by your correspondents, as is clear in my individual case.

That the 'campes' are had in this neighbourhood, and that many have lost and are losing sheep, more or less heavily, I do not deny.

For some reason or other, we, in this locality, seem doomed to find, when we are honored with your attention, the fact to be the reverse of the statement, as, for example you mention that at 12 p.m., on the 12th inst. it rained in torrents, or words to that effect. Gentlemen, it did not rain at all that night.

On another occasion the San Borombon was "flooded," when scarcely any water was in it at all. And, further back, at the very time when we were suffering so greatly from swarms of locusts, some one told you that, in this neighbourhood, that the damage of the locusts was *greatly exaggerated*, which was very wrong, as we could hardly lose more than we did, the locusts having eaten up a great deal of our grass, all the green alfalfa and maize, our potatoes and vegetables destroyed, many young trees killed, the peach trees stripped of their leaves and fruit, gardens spoilt, and even linen, hung out to dry, was brought in, on various occasions, quite full of holes made by them. In the face of all this, how can people tell you that the accounts of locusts, in this district had been "greatly exaggerated."

Being an interested reader of your valuable paper, and believing you, as gentlemen, to be thoroughly averse to anything incorrect appearing in your paper, I bring the foregoing to your notice, having the honor to be,
Yours &c.
G. JEPPENER.

ON 'CHANGE.
March 20, 1866.
Paper price of ounces \$417 1/2
Do. Sovereigns 127
First and last price of Patacos 26 10
Cash sales, 41,400.

Specie business to-day was of a most limited nature; the only sales effected were for cash and for Saturday \$3,000 at cash prices; a small sale of 12,000 for the 31st March was made at 26 15, but nothing else. Buyers for July, August and September were offering every where, but no sellers; in fact, time transactions for any large amount cannot be effected. First class brokers will not sell, so much depends on the news from the army. Any reverse sustained by the allies, no matter what the state of the paper-money market may be, would at once drive ounces to five hundred. Victory must follow victory. In the absence of specie remittances or the negotiation of the loan we are not prepared for any check, much less a default. But confidence in the squadron and in the army is rapidly oozing out, and the consequence is that time sales cannot be effected. The news per Esmeralda caused a profound impression; it was confidently asserted that the steamer would bring, if not the news of the fall of Humaita, at least the report that the army had crossed; nothing of the kind. Public patience is now fairly exhausted, and the feeling on the Bolsa is enhanced by the rumors currently circulated by the bulls.

Specie has an upward tendency, although the money market is slightly easier, but the street is flooded with bills which cannot be discounted even at the most exorbitant rates.

Mr. Drabbe's letter, published in the 'Standard' to-day, was the great topic on 'Change'; every one approves of his sentiments on the Bank question, and it is presumed that some very important steps are contemplated by the National Government. Still, it is right to observe that

The Bank question is now assuming a political character, and many see that the real issue is not the Bank, but the National Government versus the National Government, a question which, as far as Buenos Ayres is concerned, would be very quickly decided. The state of the Bank is not such as to justify the discussion going on, and many opine that merchants would consult their interests by not forcing the subject at this moment too prominently before the public.

In Bonds nothing done.

An Exchange a good deal done, from \$1 1/2 to \$1 1/4; the private Banks are drawing at 61.

From the wool places we have nothing to record, owing to the weather. The storm did no damage in the 11 Sietembr.

Messrs. H. A. Green & Co. have chartered the British barque Speedwell, to load in Uruguay, tallow, for London at 42s. 6d., for Liverpool at 45s. and 6 1/2.

TEMPERATURE
Tuesday March 20th—Fahr. 81.

Theatre Franco-Argentin

BOUFFES PARISIENS.
Sous la direction de Mr. D'Hôte.

GRANDE REPRESENTATION EXTRAORDINAIRE
Au bénéfice des familles de soldats
blessés du "Paso de la Patria."
Jeudi 22 Mars 1866.

Désirons de venir en aide aux familles des soldats blessés pour la défense de la Patrie, l'Administration des Bouffes Parisiens a l'honneur d'offrir au public de Buenos Ayres, la représentation suivante à laquelle, elle espère, que personne ne fera défaut.

LA FILLE DE L'AIR.
Vu la longueur du spectacle, la représentation commencera à 8 heures précises.

A Desirable Investment.
To be sold for \$140,000 a magnificent new house, containing 7 spacious and well ventilated rooms. It stands on a plot of ground 17 1/2 rods in front by 3/4 a square deep, is situated in Tucuman, opposite the Irish college, of San Patricio. It is at present set at the monthly rent of \$30,000. Also for \$150,000 a plot of land 6 1/2 squares deep by 16 in front, situated in Calle Uruguay, between Tucuman and Temple, behind Parque. Let on lease at \$1000 m/c a month. There is also on sale, at \$500 per square league, five leagues of very superior land, in the province of Santa Fe. The above to be sold in one or more lots to suit purchasers. For further particulars apply 42 Calle Bolivar. 112-4p m2o.

To be Sold.
In the Carmen de Arco, an Azotea-house, with Garden, containing some fine fruit-trees, quinces, peaches, figs, and nuts. The house is a large one, and stands about one square from the plaza. Also a large plot of ground, measuring one square or four solares, situated about the same distance from the square, in a northerly direction. The whole will be sold very cheap, as the owner cannot give time to attend to it. For further particulars apply at the corner of the square opposite the college. 95-5pm2o

For Sale.
An iron-grey colt, Mexican, rising five years, bred by Latham. Can be seen at Mr. Malcom's stables, where particulars can be given. 111 6p-m2o

PACKE AND LE BAS,
General Town and Camp Agents,
96 CALLE PIEDRAS,
Montevideo.
110 1m-m2o

Land to Rent.
In Banda Oriental, in the Department of Paysandú 12 suertes in fractions; in San José 4 suertes. Apply to Calle Reconquista, No. 46. 105 3p-m18

For Sale.
About 5,000 fine sheep, on an estancia in the North, situated within 30 leagues of the city. The land will be sold or rented as may suit purchaser: it is the best in the Province. For particulars Apply at Mr. Terence Moore's, corner of Reconquista and Piedad. 109-3p m18

To Let.
A fine and comfortable house, Calle Maipu, 314. A foreign family preferred. Apply at the premises 104-3pm 18

Notice
Any person having received or bought any of the following articles:—1 gold pin attached by a small chain to a small gold pin with a green stone set on the screw side, the other side plain; 1 gold carbuncle pin and collar stud, 1 set of gold studs white stones, 1 pair of gold s. br. links, 1 pair silver shirt links, 1 pair silver shirt links, 1 black brooch with Freemasons arms in gold, 1 pair of silver buckles and 1 span silk Magenta sash—will please return them to the 'Standard' office, as they were stolen from a wardrobe in the Calle Florida, and means are being taken to bring the delinquent to justice; or if the party who got them will return them with an apology no further steps will be taken. 83-6p m16

Coachman and Cook.
Wanted at 405 Rivadavia a man and woman, a married couple preferred. Apply daily before 12 o'clock. 115-3p m20

Wanted.
A resident Professor, English or French, at the Franco-Ingles College, No. 9 Calle Cochabamba. 118-3p m20

Wanted a Situation.
As an assistant in a grocery store by a young of good experience in the business. Please address J. C. office of this paper or Messrs. Barry and Walker. 114-3p m20

Wanted for the Country.
A Government to instruct three little girls. Music required; also a married couple. The man as Cook, the woman for Housemaid. For particulars apply between ten and twelve o'clock a.m., 313 Calle Victoria. 106-3p m18

Wants a Situation.
A married couple (German) in an English family. The woman is a good cook for English and German cookery, and the man a good workman, and understands perfectly the care of houses. Good references will be given. Apply Calle de Paraná, 228. 107-3p m18

Wanted.
In Chacomus a respectable woman as housemaid and to attend to children; also a steady boy for general work. For particulars apply at this office. 94-10p m16

Wanted.
A Clerk in an English house, who can write a good hand and is quick at accounts. Apply 116 Calle Piedad. 81-6p m16

Wanted a Married Couple.
The woman as cook and the man as general servant for an Estancia in the Banda Oriental. Apply Maipu No. 12. 82-12p m11

THE "WEEKLY STANDARD"
On Sale at the Nueva Libreria Inglesa, 76-SAN MARTIN-76
Neatly opposite the Bolsa.

SAVINGS BANK.

BANK MAUI and CO.

No. 103 Calle de Cangallo, BUENOS AYRES.

The immense advantages of Accounts Current are now generally felt and appreciated in the two great emporiums of the River Plate...

CONDITIONS.

- First—The Bank receives at interest any sum from Twenty-five Dollars currency Silver Dollar upwards. Second—The interest allowed is six per cent. (6%) per annum...



RIVER PLATE STEAM-SHIP COMPANY.

LIVERPOOL AND RIVER PLATE DIRECT.

NAMES OF STEAMERS. CORDOVA.

ADA, URUGUAY, UNA, LEDA.

One of these Steamers will leave Liverpool for Montevideo and Buenos Ayres on the 1st of each month. Cargo will be received on board of the steamers 48 hours after their arrival...

J. S. WYLLIE AND CO. General Merchants and Commission Agents CHASCOMUS.

Agents, for the European Newspapers and "Standard," also for the sale and purchase of Land and Sheep.

NOTICE TO THE LADIES, RE-OPENING OF THE ENGLISH DRAPEY ESTABLISHMENT, 61 CORRIENTES 61.

Mr. THOMAS HOLMES begs respectfully to announce to the Ladies of Buenos Ayres and those resident in the Provinces, that he has succeeded to the business of this well known establishment...

Underclothing for Ladies, Misses, and Infants. Ladies, Misses, and Children's Stockings and Socks, Embroidered and Plain Petticoats, Cambric Handkerchiefs, Trimmed Valenciennes Lace Collars and Cuffs, Edgings and Insertions, Flouncings, Guipure, Brussels, and Valenciennes Lace, Real Guipure and other Lace Veils.

La Zingara and Icaria. All Parties indebted for passage money to the above-mentioned ships are requested to call at my Office and pay their passage, within two months from date...

IBERNIAN HOUSE. 64, 66 and 68 Calle Piedra, (between San Martin and Reconquista). GENERAL CAMP STORE.

Mensagerias "Las Generales al Sud". Administracion calle Potosi 2697. Los Empleados abajo firmados, ponen en conocimiento del publico en general...

TO CAMP PURCHASERS, GAIBRAITH AND HUNTER. Dig respectfully to inform their numerous Camp Customers that they have received a large assortment of New Goods...

Butchers-shop and Whale-boat-office. No. 29 Pasado Julio No. 39!!! Important Notice to Captains of vessels of all nations.

Notice. To be sold on halves a large and well selected flock of sheep with good land situated within six leagues of Chascomus Station...

La Protejida del Pilar. Starts from Moreno every morning. Luggage letters, &c. to be left with Mr. Francis Rodriguez at the luggage room of the Parque Station.

REINATE. POR MARIANO BILLINGHURST. De la finca situada en la calle de Chacabuco N.º 305, perteneciente a la Testamentaria de Doña Leopoldina Jarlon de orden del Sr. Juez de 1.ª Instancia...

A chance for a fortune. The undersigned about to retire from business and to absent themselves from the country offer for sale their Photograph Gallery with all instruments, apparatus, fixtures, &c. requisite for the successful prosecution of the art.

SOCIEDAD "PROGRESO ARGENTINO". Calle del Cerrito No. 236 and 238. Branch works at the Boca del Riachuelo, Opposite the principal molo (Vuelta de Rocha).

STEAM-BOAT AGENCY. MATTI Y CA. 30—Calle Cangallo—30. For Rosario and intermediate ports. The steamer Ibicuy.

FOR SALT. And all the intermediate ports—The English steamer Rio Parana. Will leave on Thursdays at 10 a. m. returning on Mondays.

FOR MERCEDES. Passengers will embark in the Rio Parana to be transported to the steamer Guazu at 2 p. m. For GUALEGUAY.

FORDED! WHITNEY! Notice.—A trunk and a box, both full of miscellaneous accounts and other papers, belonging to the estate of John Ford, deceased, and a bundle of clothing addressed to John H. Whitney...

Water! Water! Water! Messrs. VANDEVELDE, BROTHERS, NATIONAL FACTORY, 245 BUEN ORDEN. Undertake to supply the public at their Quintas, in town or camp, with the best water.

STORE TO RENT. A good spacious store with 10 rooms adjoining to rent to a good tenant on moderate terms at 72 Calle Belgrano, next door to the Standard office and beneath Meeks and Kelsy's gallery.

ENGLISH GRAMMAR SCHOOL. Colegio Central de Santa Lucia. Al pié de la Barranca de la Calle Buen Orden, Buenos Ayres. Director—Mr. P. FOUQUERARD.

Lobos Grocery Store. Los abajo firmados ofrecemos al publico en general y nuestros favorecedores en particular, un surtido general de efectos de tienda, almacén, ferrería y corralon de maderas, maderas, maderas, maderas...

Fabrica de Persianas. Cajones Fanebres. GUILLERMO DAWES, Hijo, 196—Reconquista—196, Buenos Ayres.

Carriage Horses of the purest blood. Messrs. Ferrero have just received by the English steamer Kepler, lately arrived from Liverpool, a magnificent stallion and two beautiful thorough-bred mares.

Sociedad para Férias y Carreras en Moron. Deseando tener lugar el Domingo 26 del corriente de acuerdo con sus Estatutos, la reunion anual de los Sres. Accionistas para la eleccion de la nueva Comision Directiva...

E. MEDLICOTT & CO., ENGLISH FAMILY WINE MERCHANTS. Beg to announce the receipt of a large assortment of fine Spanish and Portuguese wines, by the steamer Kepler.

ADDISON DORR, Agent & Commissioner for Purchase or Sale of Estancias—Animales Has removed His Office Temporarily To No. 5 Calle Defensa March 15, 1866.

Aviso. En el Carmen de Aroco, se vende una casa de azotes con una quinta toda poblada de monte de fruta, como duraznos, membrillos, higueras, nogales, &c. a una cuadra distante de la plaza de casto pueblo.

Wanted Immediately. To good steady man I will give constant employment good comfortable house, good fare, and liberal wages. Apply on the premises. GEORGE W. MURRIS.

THE LONDON ASSURANCE. INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER, 1780. FOR INSURING BUILDINGS, GOODS, MERCHANTS, VESSELS IN PORT OR IN DOCK, Throughout Great Britain and Ireland, And in Foreign Countries.

Royal Mail Steam Packet Company. The Royal Mail Steam Packet "ARZO," Captain Curlew, will leave this port for Montevideo and Rio de Janeiro, on Tuesday, 27th March, 1866.

Beal Holland's. Just received another lot of the famous fine "mark of the Key" in stone jars, in beautiful condition, despatched or in deposit.

EDUCATION. ADDRESS TO THE IRISH RESIDENTS OF MERCEDES. Mercedes, March 12th 1866. Animated with the desire of giving a greater impulse to popular education as well as earning for myself a respectable livelihood, by supplying a want long felt in this "partido," I have resolved on establishing an English College in Mercedes...

What Irish parent will not lend his protection to the establishment I propose founding, when it will tend to the progress and advancement of the district in which their fortunes are situated, and at the same time place within their reach an element of vital importance for the improvement of their children, the rising generation of the country?

1st. To establish in Mercedes a college for the Irish community of the neighborhood, in which I will receive up to 50 boarders. 2nd. To provide the institution with the necessary elements for a literary and scientific education.

IRISH PARENTS will please bear in mind that this college will have no connexion whatever with the present "Colegio San Luis." I have the honor to salute the Irish residents of Mercedes with the assurance of my highest esteem.

AUCTION OF NEGRETTE RAMS. On THURSDAY, 22d inst., will be sold at Public Auction, by Benjamin Nazar and Co., Calle Victoria, 164, at 11 o'clock in the morning precisely, at the highest possible price cash, 37 Negrette Rams, from the Cabaña of F. Von Honeyer, Esq., which arrived here from Antwerp, on board the American ship Eleana Scars, to the command of Messrs. Hugo Bungo, and Co.

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