

THE WEEKLY STANDARD

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EDITORS AND PROPRIETORS—M. G. & E. T. MULHALL.

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TO BRITISH MERCHANTS

And generally to all parties interested in Mercantile business with Great Britain.

British Consulate,
Buenos Ayres, June 29, 1866.

At the request of H.B.M.'s Chargé d'Affaires the undersigned begs to inform the British mercantile community residing in the Argentine Republic that, by an official despatch just received from the Earl of Clarendon, he has been authorized to make known generally to those who have a direct interest in commercial matters, the views of H.M.'s Government on the late financial crisis in England, it being a matter of great importance that the commercial interests abroad should be reassured in regard to what is passing in England.

The monetary crisis through which the United Kingdom is now passing will naturally attract great attention in this country, and it is therefore desirable that a clear conception should be formed, both of its nature and probable extent, but more particularly of the measures which H.M.'s Government have adopted to enable the mercantile community to meet the difficulties of the present situation.

Long continued prosperity in commercial affairs, and the general wealth consequent on it, have produced their ordinary results, in encouraging speculation, especially of a monetary or financial character, and fostering hopes of acquiring wealth by more speedy means than are presented by the ordinary methods of commercial industry. Again, the events which are taking place on the Continent of Europe have tended, not only to produce immediate derangement in commercial transactions in England, but also to shake that confidence in the future without which a return to a sound state in monetary matters was not to be looked for.

The immediate cause, however, of the crisis lay in the stoppage of the great discount house of Overend, Gurney & Co., in whose hands were lodged many millions sterling, which in other times would have formed, and which perhaps ought to have formed, the reserves of the various private and joint-stock banks of England. This failure directed the action of the panic against the banks in London, and it was to be apprehended that the action of the capital would be followed by a similar agitation in the rest of the kingdom, where, in addition to the large deposits in the hands of the bankers, there are many millions of paper in circulation resting only on the commercial credit of the issuers.

In this state of things it could not be surprising that the reserve of the Bank of England was heavily affected on the 11th of May last, and it was the combined consideration of what had then actually happened, and of what might follow on the subsequent days, which induced H.M.'s Government to authorize the Bank of England to an increase of its issue by an extraordinary emission of £5,000,000. For the money drawn from the Bank having been withdrawn from circulation under the influence of panic, the Bank of England might, without some new resource, have been unable to continue its accustomed assistance. Thus the crisis, which had been anxiously apprehended from this combination of circumstances, came at last, but with a severity of suddenness in regard to its immediate consequences which could not have been anticipated.

The Bank of England is prepared to extend relief to the utmost of its means to all cases which are justly deserving of its support; while H.M.'s Government, in full reliance on the eventual sanction of Parliament, if it should be necessary to go beyond the law as it now stands, have signified to the Bank of England their permission to hold itself free from the observance of the ordinary limitations on its issues, if the exigencies of the time require such an extraordinary measure. Her Majesty's Government trust that by this timely assistance all commercial establishments which are based on sound principles, and have been con-

ducted with proper prudence, will be enabled to withstand the shock to which the panic occasioned by the recent great failure in the City of London will have exposed them. Her Majesty's Government have no reason to apprehend that there is any general want of soundness in the ordinary trade of England which can give reasonable ground for anxiety or alarm, either in England or abroad; they are satisfied, on the contrary, that the present crisis, peculiar and unprecedented as it is, is one of a character essentially more favorable than others which have been successfully passed through; and that all that is required is, that all classes should co-operate with H.M.'s Government in endeavoring to allay needless alarm, and in acting with prudence and forbearance while so much agitation prevails.

Such is the view taken by H.M.'s Government of the present state of affairs; and in consequence of the active measures which have been adopted to avert any evil consequences H.M.'s Government feel confident that those measures will be attended with success.

The abatement of the panic in the City of London on the morning of the 12th of May last is, Her Majesty's Government trust, an earnest of the good result likely to attend the measures which they have authorized the Bank of England to adopt.

By order of H.B.M.'s Legation,
CONSTANT SANTA MARIA,
H.B.M.'s Acting Consul

IMPORTANT MEETING OF SHIP-CAPTAINS.

Buenos Ayres, June 20th, 1866

We, the undersigned, agree with the accompanying Resolutions, proposed and carried at a general meeting of the British Shipmasters:

Captains' Names.	Ships.
Christopher Thomson,	Zambese.
Christopher Slater,	Istria.
Archibald Carrick,	Eden.
George P. Mitchell,	Warwickshire.
Donald Baine McIntosh,	A. L. Palmer.
Elias Pitts,	Gentle Annie.
James Parkman,	Amoy.
John Duthie,	Jane Brown.
James Coleman,	Pilot Fish.
Vivian Stevens,	Alethea.
James Palmer Brown,	Annie Bragenton.
James Gladstone,	Beutha.
James Anderson,	Jane.
Henry C. McBeath,	Commodore.
Terence Cockran,	Carrie Wright.
David Delap,	Estella.
John Evans,	Lotus.
W. G. Downing,	Refuge.
James J. Brown,	William Harper.
Joseph Todd,	Nazarene.

Proceedings of a Meeting held by British Shipmasters on June 20th, 1866.

Proposed by the Chairman, Captain James Anderson, and seconded by the Secretary, Captain James Gladstone:

Resolved, 1st. That this meeting is called to take proper steps in redressing certain wrongs connected with the foreign shipping of the port of Buenos Ayres.

Proposed by Capt. James Coleman, seconded by Captain Christopher Thomson:

2nd. That the present system of giving in a list of stores, is not carried out, and in place of a list of stores, it is virtually an inventory of the ship's furniture; That it is actually required, with no notice of the same being given to the shipmaster, until the ship is clearing out, when the said shipmaster finds himself detained by several petty fines, against which there is no appeal without detention to ship.

Proposed by Capt. H. McBeath, seconded by Captain C. Slater:

3rd. Further, That the present system of shipmasters being held responsible for cargo several days after it has left the ship's tackle, and has passed through several hands, is unjust and contrary to our Marine Law.

Proposed by Captain James Gladstone, seconded by Captain Terence Cockran:

4th. Further, it is the opinion of this meeting that the present system of detaining ships till the duties are paid on the goods, inwards and outwards, is unjust, and not in accordance with the rules of the commercial world in general.

Proposed by Captain A. Garrick, seconded by Captain G. C. Mitchell:

5th. That in the event of the Government of this place not listening to our appeal, the said Government be re-

quested to have printed forms put on board of every ship on arrival, stating the Custom-house rules required, and the articles to be mentioned in the Shipmasters' List to prevent petty fines and consequent annoyance and detention.

Proposed by Captain E. E. Pitts, seconded by Capt. D. B. McIntosh:—
6th. It is resolved that the advice and co-operation of H.B.M.'s Consul shall be solicited for the furtherance of this meeting.

Proposed by Captain C. Thomson, seconded by Captain J. Evans:—

7th. That steps be taken to make these proceedings public in the mercantile and marine papers of Great Britain, to serve as a caution to those about to proceed to this port.

8th. That a committee of five be chosen to draw up a petition (embodying the resolutions passed at this meeting) and collect evidence, and wait as a deputation to lay these proceedings before H.B.M.'s Consul.

Copy of a letter to H.B.M.'s Consul.

Sir,—
We, the British Shipmasters in this port, ask your advice and co-operation in assisting us in removing the present grievances with regard to the Port Regulations, by which we suffer, not only for ourselves, but also for our employers, and also for the furtherance of the commerce of this port.

We attach to this note some particulars of the grievances, taken from facts of masters present and left.

We also give you the proceedings of a meeting held June 20th, containing the resolutions passed.

We also give you a list of those present.

We, in conclusion, humbly beg and hope that you will use your earnest endeavors to assist us in removing these abuses, for which we, the British Shipmasters in this port, will ever be grateful.

We beg to remain,
Your obedient servants,
CAPTAIN J. ANDERSON,
Do. T. COCKRAN,
Do. C. SLATER,
Do. H. McBEATH,
Do. J. GLADSTONE.
(Signed by the Committee).

THE PROPOSED LAND-LAW.

Giles, June 26, 1866.

To the Editors of the "Standard."

Gentlemen,

A communicated article in last week's "Standard," showing the irregularity of the effects of the proposed Land Law, is a just appreciation of its merits, and shows palpably the amendment which it requires, to be carried out justly and with true benefit to the country. The comparisons which it establishes are also such as no dispassioned person can fail to listen to, the real price of any land being such only as its intrinsic merits give it; and who will fail to notice the difference between those lands that are improved by stocking, and in every way secure, and those that may be called unreclaimed? To explain more fully my meaning, and also, as I hope, that of the article under the heading, 'The Land Law,' I must sit down and classify frontier lands as they are understood to be.

1st. What constitutes lands to be termed 'frontier lands' in this country, is not, as foreign readers may imagine, a divisionary line between one country and another; it is merely a line inside of which the Government is supposed to guarantee life and property from the depredations of the Indians of the Pampas, and where law and order reigns.

2nd. Those outside of the frontier line where there is no security given.

But as regards these two descriptions of land their nature is the same, and the Partidos of 25 de Mayo, 9 de Julio, Bragado, Chacabuco, and Janin, besides part of Rojas, are the same in their degree of security, and their land is also alike to that outside of the frontier line, in proof of which I will say that sheep can only be kept when they have the advantage of a piece of low land, or 'huéico,' as it is termed, the hills being covered with strong grass and rushes unfit for them; and it takes many years of unprofitable stock-breeding to improve such lands. As to security, I will mention that not-

withstanding the continual endeavors of the Government the means at their disposal are so far short of the requirements, that whether inside or out of the frontier line, the security is only such as the existence of booty further ahead can give; and the partidos mentioned are all so situated, on account of their primeval state that according to the number of the invading Indians, so their security may be rated. If the Indians are few in number a reasonable booty will satisfy them, and only the more exposed settlers will suffer: if many, none of the partidos mentioned would remain unvisited. Regarding profitable stock-breeding, especially in sheep, all these lands are alike, and the most they can do is to keep up their number, if they do that, until after the lapse of years the land having improved they begin to be profitable; and as to the land itself, if rented to others it will not yield more than 8 per cent. per annum, on a cost of \$150,000. Therefore the only profit in these lands remains in perspective.

But to return to our subject: the difference of price in land of one nature and alike unprofitable and unsafe. If the Government wishes to charge for a nominal security, such as exists in these partidos, let them do so moderately, and not as in the case of Chacabuco, whose lands are without exception composed of 'pastos fuertes,' and where danger, if any, is no less than in 9 de Julio: therefore to place the former partido at the same rate as those of Chascomus and Lobos, is really more than the greatest absurdity could warrant.

But we hope that the Ministerial project will be amended, and that all these shortcomings will be made up, especially in reference to Chacabuco, the worst treated of all the partidos, and where, to my knowledge, very large trenches or 'pozos' have been made two years ago, some that would do honor to the approaches of Huamita; and, in faith, they were required. Nor are they now looked upon otherwise than as a blessing by the neighbors, who take refuge in them frequently during alarms.

But, it is to be hoped, that those persons more directly interested in the matter will do from interest what what I now do more in my endeavors to have justice done them being, as I am, acquainted with the localities and matters mentioned, and with the view of extending the sphere of sheep husbandry—namely, tend with their information to the passing of sound and beneficial measures for the good of their several districts, seeking at the same time the influence of association through the columns of your wide-spread journal.

I remain, Gentlemen,
Yours respectfully,
A SUBSCRIBER.

FUNERAL OBSEQUES OF LIEUT. PORTELA.

The solemn Service for the Dead was celebrated on last Wednesday at the Merced church for the eternal repose of this lamented youth who met a soldier's doom while gallantly defending his flag in the fatal jungles of Estero Bellaco. The attendance was large and respectable, comprising some 200 gentlemen, among whom we noticed Gen. Nazar, some army and navy officers, members of Congress, provincial deputies, the chief of Police, and the immediate friends of the deceased. The funeral rites commenced at 10.45, with the singing psalms for the Dead, which were chaunted with the aid of an effective choir. The church was draped in black, and in front of the high altar was a catafalque surrounded by funeral torches. The nave was occupied by two rows of seats, outside of which were numbers of ladies also dressed in mourning.

The Mass for the Dead was very imposing, no fewer than 20 clergymen assisting, and the Dies Irae was beautifully sung. At the canon of the Mass, tapers were distributed, and the church presented an impressive appearance the daylight being entirely excluded. At the last Gospel the doors were thrown open, the celebrants then descending from the altar and intoning the last responses at the communion-rail. At the words 'Requiescat in pace' a volley of musquetry was heard from the picquet outside

the entrance, the last salute to their late comrade in arms, who has gone down to the tomb at the premature age of 20 years.

At the porch of the church the brothers-in-law of the deceased were saluted by their condoling friends. The service terminated at 12 o'clock.

TREMENDOUS EDITORIAL VICTORY.

THE TORPEDOES A FACT.

SINBAD RIGHT.

ALL OUR COLLEAGUES DEFEATED.

When Sinbad stated that the Paraguayans were filling the River Paraguay with torpedoes, all the native papers contradicted and ridiculed the idea. Now it turns out that poor Sinbad told the truth, and we have actually the torpedoes* on exhibition at the "Standard" office. We invite the Minister of War and Chief of Police to inspect them, also all our colleagues who took the trouble to contradict Sinbad.

The following is an exact description of these hideous monsters, which have been constructed in a scientific manner. The torpedo is under water, nothing visible but a buoy, and the plans which we have represent a square case with its buoy, iron bars, cylinders, &c., and to be properly understood should be inspected, as they also show the interior of the machine.

* We mean of course drawings of them.

EXPLANATION OF TORPEDO PLANS. On exhibition at the "Standard" office.

FIG. I.—Horizontal section of torpedo, showing its internal disposition, method of ignition, measures, etc.

FIG. II.—External appearance of the torpedo in position, with buoy and anchors.

1. A wooden box which contains another also of wood, and within the last another of zinc filled with powder.
2. A bar of iron from which two hooks spring out, and is so disposed that when the torpedo touches any hard object the bar is squeezed against the box and moves the piston which causes the explosion.
3. A plate of zinc which blocks up the mouth in the cylinder.
4. A cylinder of copper.
5. The piston.
6. A little glass phial containing explosive matters, and round this phial is a layer of cotton impregnated with powder, with some admixture.
7. Iron bolts, by means of which it is possible for the bars to strike the box.
8. Hooks springing from the bars of iron, and disposed so that a blow can take place in whatever position the vessel touches.
9. The piston.
10. The bottom of the cylinder with 5 or 6 holes blocked up with a mixture of powder for the ignition.
11. The above mentioned layer of cotton.

THE QUESTION OF FREIGHTS.

There is an evident misunderstanding as to the position of this commercial question, and the captains of vessels are likely in consequence to get themselves into trouble by refusing a just arrangement of the freights.

Whatever conditions are stated on the face or in the endorsement of their Bills of Lading simply and definitely determine their rights.

If the Bills of Lading bear on their face or an endorsement with the clause "Freights payable at the current rate of exchange," they must abide by that rate, as determined by the commission of merchants and the Bolsa declaration respecting it, and receive the freight accordingly.

If there is no such clause, the captains are entitled, according to the judgment of the High Court, to receive their freights in current coin, of any denomination, at the election of the consignees, at its legal equivalent value to the denominated coin at which the freights are calculated and made payable in, conformable to the Bill of Lading.

This is authoritative. X

OFFICERS' FURLOUGH.

Gen. Nazar has put a stop to officers' furlough, and notifies all who are amusing themselves in town to present themselves at his office, those who are sick abed to drop a line.

THE WAR IN THE NORTH.

AMALGAMATED CORRESPONDENCE.

THINGS AS THEY ARE.

The threatened absence of 'Sinbad' has been one of the most severe editorial afflictions we have experienced since the war commenced. Well may we exclaim with the poet—

"Timeo Danaos et dona ferentes."

When 'Sinbad' wrote to us thanking the Brazilian Admiral for his hospitality and kindness, and advising us of the invitation to take a run up and see the Baron Porto Alegre, we began to fear that some people were getting too kind towards our correspondent; we wrote to him accordingly, but before our letter reached Corrientes 'Sinbad' was steaming up the upper Parana. Thanks to an English gentleman in Corrientes, Cavendish, we have been up to the present pretty well posted up, but to day we are without advice and plunged into the meshes of a rather indiscriminate correspondence, from which we cull all that we think will interest our readers.

The Brazilians have been busy mounting what they call Labitte guns, facing those raised by the Paraguayans. On the 19th there was a stiff firing kept up on both sides; the Paraguayans threw a shell into Flores' tent whilst he was writing a letter to Montevideo, it rolled out and exploded in the mud. The Brazilians threw a grenade into one of the artillery waggons of the enemy, which smashed the waggon. As to the operations of the allies there are all sorts of rumors. Lacasa, who was sent into Corrientes to gather horses, stated that the Commander-in-Chief informed him the moment he had the horses across the river he would march against the enemy. Every one thinks that the allies are preparing for a grand attack, as no more leaves or permissions are given to officers, and Nelson, who is in Rosario, has been summoned to headquarters. Some big Brazilian officer wanted to go down to Buenos Ayres, but permission has been refused him. The caciques from the Gran Chaco have had an interview with Tamandaré, and it is rumored at the encampment that the Triple Alliance has found another ally in the savages of the Gran Chaco, who are about to invade Paraguay.

On the night of the 16th a large torpedo was found at the bow of the best vessel the Brazilians have, the Bahia. On the 18th another torpedo was found, the water had got at the powder. A sort of fire launch was drifted down the river also, composed of tar, bombs, shells, and barrels of gunpowder, but luckily it did no damage, although it at first caused great alarm on board the gunboats. The sick soldiers in Corrientes are rapidly recovering: since the 1st June over 3000 Brazilian soldiers have been cured and sent back to the army.

Curupaity has not yet been attacked. It has fire-ships, chains, and palisades in the river, also torpedos; but the place itself is weak and will not cost much.

Lopez has published an account of the battle of the 24th. He claims to have won a glorious victory. Resquin and Barrios have been promoted to the rank of Brigadiers.

Lopez is building ranchos for his soldiers at his fortified camp.

The cold at the Allied camp is something fearful, but as firewood is abundant the soldiers warm themselves over the camp fires.

The allies, it appears, will not attack the Paraguayan position in front, but make a flank movement of about two leagues to the left.

(Special correspondence only for the 'Standard')

We extract the following from a letter received from an Englishman at present at headquarters.

"I have seen Curupaity: it is a small but commanding place, has I calculate 7 guns mounted, and I hear that the garrison is only 100 men. As I passed up the new Tamandaré road from the fleet to the army, cut through the 'monte,' I could distinctly see the Paraguayan outposts sitting on the ground. All along the whole country about here is covered with dead horses and dead Paraguayans, at least I am told they are dead Paraguayans; the stench is horrible and yet the allies cannot bury them or remove or burn or even touch them, for the moment they attempt it the enemy opens such a galling fire that the allies have to desist. It is lucky that it is not summer, for such a heap of corruption would soon infect the whole army. I hear that in a day or two the Brazilian flats are to enter the Piris Lake, to try and shell the enemy's encampment, but the distance is so great, and the water so uncertain, that it is a dangerous business for the Brazilians. I have seen Lopez's account of the battle of the 24th: he states that his

loss is only 700 men, and the allies 15,000. When Octaviano arrives here there is to be a grand Estero Bellaco dinner party. What the Minister comes for, is a mystery to all; if he means to wait until Humaitá falls, he had better take good furnished lodgings in Corrientes, for the cold is so intense that if he stops in the allied camp he may get frozen up. The cold is really as severe as in England, and the white frost each morning so thick that the officers on the gunboats play at snow ball on the decks of their vessels.]

Every day Paraguayan soldiers pass over, but tell the 'Standard' that I believe half of these fellows are spies, for they have all the same words in their mouth. Mrs. Lynch is living about half a league from the camp. Lopez, they say, is never seen in the day, but at night-time visits the fortifications with his aide-de-camps. Will you take my word for it, the enemy is well fortified, and to storm the position would require men from Galway. Candidly speaking, I see no way out of this business; but then, as I am a new comer, of course I can form no very correct notion on this extraordinary war. There are two 68-pounders mounted, also some Whitworth guns, very best English make, constantly firing on the allies, and, as if day was not sufficient, the fellows have got the range and keep peppering away all night: they say the balls do no harm; in my country, if an officer made such a statement they would say, "tell that to the marines!" Will you believe it that the enemy's 68-pounders are responded to by the Brazilian brass 12-pounders? What would Sir Colin Campbell say to this? "Out of joint, sir—go report yourself to 'Punch.'"

The torpedos are badly hatched. I saw one of them; but the Brazilians had better take care. The Paraguayans may mend their hand, and then one, two, three, and all hands blown to bits. Many people here are nervous; I do not believe much in these things. What beats Mitre, beats Osorio, and beats Flores, is the confounded character of the country, and not so much the enemy. If Lopez falls back to the interior I tell you. Lopez, who has proved himself 'non compos' in military matters, does not know where his real strength lies. Give me ten thousand courageous natives and the whole country in my favor, and I will defy all the French Zouaves Napoleon could send to subjugate us. The natural character of the Paraguayan country is greatly in favour of the natives. You may give what you think proper of this letter to my friends at the 'Standard' office.

It costs so much to live up here that I shall not stop long."

ARRIVAL OF THE GUARANI.

SINBAD NOT RETURNED.

The Guarani arrived on Friday, bringing the 'Esperanza' of Corrientes to the 24th ult.

The ditch that surrounds the allied camp is two metres wide, with a parapet on top, which serves as a great protection for the soldiers.

The shell that entered Flores' tent carried away his 'recado,' and cut it into a thousand pieces.

Day and night the firing is going on, and guerillas in the woods. On the 19th the Paraguayans bombarded as fiercely as on the 14th. On the 20th the shells fell hot and heavy also.

The whole of the allied artillery is about to be moved up towards the enemy's lines, and in combination with the fleet, to bombard Lopez's encampment.

Both armies are in the same place, looking at each other. There is one roar from the allied camp for horses, bullocks, and men.

The grand attack will take place on the 9th of July.

IMPORTANT NEWS PER GUARANI.

BRAZILIANS FISHING UP MORE TORPEDOES
Steamer Guarani, June 29, 1866.

Dear Sir,
Very trifling news from the seat-of-war. A Brazilian transport arrived in Corrientes on Sunday last from the Paso de la Patria; the only news of importance that she brought being that the squadron had managed to raise 5 of the infernal machines laid down by the Paraguayans for the destruction of the ironclads. On Tuesday morning we passed the Brazilian ironclad Lima Barrios, unfortunately aground at the lower mouth of the Jaguarate; there were three steamers there to assist in getting her afloat, and as the river is rising rapidly I have no doubt that before this they have effected their object. The Brazilians seem to expect great results from her, and as she is a very formidable looking vessel, I have no doubt that their wishes will be gratified should she be properly handled

We have had nothing but fogs on our passage down, which has caused us a delay of 24 hours.

I remain, dear Sir,
Yours truly,
"X."

DIARY AT HEAD-QUARTERS

THINGS AS THEY REALLY ARE

THE CAMP AT ESTERO BELLACO

PARAGUAYANS AGAIN BOMBARDING.

(By Colonel Palloja.)

June 16th. Firing last night, but nothing strange. Rain and sleet continue. The enemy fired to-day at our workmen in the trenches, but without hurting them. The sad news arrives of the death of Major Yancey commander of our artillery: he had been taking mate with me five minutes before he was shot down. Our little army is melting away in these endless skirmishes and with disease: the family and friends of General Flores should work hard to get us reinforcements, or the Oriental army will soon exist only in name. We now begin to feel regret for the awful bloodshed of this unfortunate campaign, in which we have nothing to gain, but it is now too late for regrets, and we must meet the consequences. Nothing remains but to save the honor of our arms as well as we can. Lopez gains strength by the sluggishness of our army and navy, and it gives new spirit to his men. The people in Buenos Ayres and Montevideo, instead of abusing us, ought to get us horses: they have 30,000 stall-fed animals, and our cavalry regiments are all afoot. We ought to try and move forward. It is two months to-day since we crossed the Parana, and we are not yet half way to Humaitá

June 17th. Night passed quietly: still cold and sleet. The moon is now beginning to be friend us at night. At dawn, Ensign Lagraña of the enemy's 4th foot passed over to our outposts: his first enquiry was for a captain who was to have deserted along with him, but who has not arrived. He tells us Lopez brought eleven 68-pounders from Humaitá to bombard our camp, and opened on us (on the 14th) with 30 guns, each of which fired 100 shots: the Paraguayan artillery-commander on that memorable day for their arms was Colonel Brugues, whom Lopez immediately raised to the rank of Brigadier-General, as well as Colonel Diaz who led the infantry attack on our left. Lopez counts on demoralizing the allied army by bombarding us day and night. Last night he moved down a 68-pounder on our right. His force is now estimated at 10,000 foot, 3,000 horse, and 1,000 artillery. The enemy have abandoned Curupaity, leaving there only a small force with 4 guns and orders to retire in case of attack. Everybody asks why the fleet does not move up against Humaitá? We are short of horses on land, but what does the fleet want? Resquin is not dead, but in high command under Lopez. A new calamity has befallen us: virulent small-pox has broken out, and typhoid fever, which cause us more alarm than the enemy's bomb-shells: it is the effect of our being cooped up in this horrible place amid pestilence and putrefaction. Ensign Lagraña says the enemy had 4,000 wounded in the battle of the 24th; one-half of them died before reaching Asuncion. Two scouts are said to have penetrated, last night into the camp of General Caceres, whose men took alarm on hearing them whistle: they were pursued, but contrived to escape, and it is likely the enemy meditates an attack.

June 18th. Night very quiet: the enemy means mischief. Only 3 shots fired to-day, which did us no harm. Five thousand faggots distributed among our batteries, to throw up parapets to cover our guns. We expected all day the bombardment announced by Ensign Lagraña, but luckily it has not taken place. One of our men in cleaning his musket accidentally killed one and wounded another of his comrades. Beef-rations to-day: the meat sickens one to look at, but the farina is a godsend. At midnight an alarm in the Argentine camp: shots and shouting, caused by the escape of a prisoner.

June 19th. Night very quiet: the enemy gives us less trouble with rifle-skirmishes than before. A lovely winter's day, after the frost. At 10 a.m. the enemy began firing 68-pound bombs, very slowly at first, then warming into it: Col. Malet, with four 12-pounder rifled guns, replied with great effect. Lieut. Greenhaigh, after 3 shots blew up one of the enemy's 'caissons': a hollow shot soon after exploded one of the enemy's powder-ranchos. Our guns played a good part, but it is a pity we had only 4: to-morrow 8 more are to be brought

up. The enemy's artillery also behaved well, blowing up Gen. Flores' tent after the first or second shot, and

the General had a narrow escape. They fired 61 shells of 68 pounders, and 4 rifled shot. Our 12-pounders fired 60 shots. The enemy's loss must have been considerable: we had only Capt. Mansilla of the cavalry and 2 Brazilian soldiers badly wounded. The Argentines got ready a howitzer battery under Col. Vedia, fearing the enemy would begin to shell Mitre's and Panero's tents, but they did not do so. To-day we got yerba and tobacco: we have not had a wash for 3 weeks, one of our men having stolen 5 arrobes of soap, but a shell next day carried off both his legs, and we could never find the soap. At 10 p.m. the fleet fired a rocket, which was replied to from Gen. Flores's tent: it is rumored the fleet intends moving up Lake Piris to bombard the enemy's camp but this must be a cruel sarcasm, for the enemy should only laugh at us. Why not land 3 batts. at Curupaity and begin to fish up the enemy's torpedoes?

June 20th. The whole Brazilian battery, twelve rifled 12-pounders, was put up this morning, the enemy giving no trouble while we moved our guns and waggons, but when we had some 300 men killing cattle the enemy began to throw 68-lb. shells on them till they had done. Another bomb fell to-day in General Flores's new tent, happily without killing any one: they kept firing till 2.30 p.m., throwing 35 shells [68lbs.] and 3 rifled-shot, blowing up several tents, but hurting only one man. It is remarkable that the enemy never fires at the Argentines, but wreaks his fury on the Brazilians and Orientals. Some mules have arrived for our artillery, but they neither know how to eat maize nor draw: when a batch of horses arrives, those which arrived before are all dead. To-day we have papers from Montevideo: talking of General Flores giving up the war, I do not think he will, so long as the command of the vanguard be left in his hands. The weather has set in dreadfully cold, and Greeks and Trojans have been chary of artillery firing.

June 21. At 2 a.m. a deserter from the enemy passed over, but was killed by a stupid Brazilian soldier in mistake. The weather is fearfully cold, but this is better than rain. The enemy keeps silent: his chief artillery officers are 3 foreigners, whom Lopez frequently invites to his own table. I hear the fleet is going to move on the 24th. If we remain in these quagmires much longer we shall be all smothered. News is hourly expected from Baron Port Alegre; but I have seen parties from Loreto who report Albin's flotilla still waiting for his men, which means that nobody knows the whereabouts of his army. To-day it is a year since we started from home on this "3 months' campaign," full of dreams of glory: alas! how many have left their bones on the long road we have marked with our blood! How few hope ever again to see home and friends! At 11 a.m. another deserter passed over to us. Up to 3 p.m. no cannonade by the enemy to day.

LATEST FROM CORRIENTES.

A correspondent from Corrientes writes the following respecting General Netto and our friend Dr. Newkirk:

"General Netto, who, ere this, will have been reported as dead in Buenos Ayres, and completely given up here in Corrientes by the five or six Brazilian medical men, was recommended 'in extremis' to avail himself of the professional attendance of our friend Dr. Newkirk. The disgust of the Brazilian professionals on hearing of Dr. Newkirk's having been requested to attend the General was so great as to cause them to advise said General to pay no attention to anything prescribed by so young and (sic) inexperienced a physician. Without adding further particulars as regards nature of disease, etc., I may venture to state that after 24 hours of Dr. N.'s treatment the gallant General was completely out of danger, and in 24 hours more had the double satisfaction of being able to walk about in his room, and to politely tell his imperial advisers that in future their professional attendance could and would be dispensed with. Great praise is due to our countryman, Dr. Newkirk, for his activity and zeal towards all his patients—from 4 a.m. until 10 p.m. in the saddle and attending to every one, and in more than one instance disinterestedly, as I can attest to.

"I have just heard, and with great pleasure, that Dr. Newkirk, in fact, the medical lion of the day in this city of Corrientes, has been tendered a medal for his skill in operating upon an officer named Pichotto [a Brazilian]. The case was an extremely difficult,

one, and, indeed, despaired of ever attaining any effectual cure. It only remains now for the Emperor of Brazil to approve of the well-merited honor conferred on our countryman, Dr. Newkirk.

CAVENDISH.

THE CRISIS IN ENGLAND.

INTERESTING LETTER.

London, 23 May, 1866.

Gentlemen,—

You appear to have a correspondent in this city who writes to you by the English mail, but in case you should not hear from him by the present French steamer, perhaps a short account of our recent severe financial panic, from one who has spent several months almost within the shadow of your Bolsa, may not be unacceptable.

Things in our money-market began to look very black just after the last English mail left Southampton, and the commercial barometer pointed very menacingly to STORMY. You have doubtless already heard via Lisbon by telegraph, that on the 10th inst. the crisis came, and at 3.30 p.m. the world-renowned house of Overend, Gurney & Co. [Limited] had shut their doors and stopped payment. The consequences here were about as bad (although in a different way) as those of the dust storm that has recently passed over Buenos Ayres. Lombard-street was blocked with anxious crowds who had come to see and hear all that could be ascertained on the subject, and the commotion suddenly occasioned was extraordinary and unparalleled. The next day, Friday, was of course much worse, for, as was naturally to be expected, a run commenced on several banks, while Lombard-street was literally often impassable from the crowds of people, principally composed of "loafers," who had come to see what was going on, evidently half hoping to find a dozen or more banks shut up and stopped payment, in which expectation, however they were fortunately disappointed.

The mere fact of so many idlers standing about tended to increase the panic, and every one asked his neighbor what was the latest news, whilst the most absurd rumors were eagerly swallowed as facts. The failure of Messrs. Peto & Betts, the Great Southern Railway contractors, created a great sensation; on the Stock Exchange prices collapsed altogether, and transactions were impossible, securities, especially bank shares, being actually offered for nothing in many cases if people would kindly take them with their attendant liabilities. Universal bankruptcy was imminent, and the Bank of England, with every body else, would have come to grief had not the Government stepped in by authorizing a violation of the Bank Act, thus relieving everything immediately, although it will take some weeks to recover from the shock which has been occasioned both here and in the provinces.

The stoppage of Overend, Gurney & Co. [limited] has been foreseen by the 'knowing ones' ever since the conversion of the old firm into a Company some months since, when they were really insolvent consequent upon reckless management and being hopelessly involved with numberless rotten mercantile firms. Of course a failure for twelve millions sterling occasioned great consternation and reacted at once upon the various financial companies which have arisen like mushrooms, causing incalculable mischief by their unscrupulous mismanagement. Some have already stopped payment, while others are so locked up by imprudent advances to railway contractors, etc., that they have to make ruinous calls upon their unfortunate shareholders, and it would be well in the end if they could all be wound up and swept away.

The losses to shareholders of various Companies all over the country are enormous and incalculable, and you may readily imagine that with the Bank rate of discount at 10 per cent., a continental war imminent, a panic raging, business paralyzed, the prices of cotton and other produce 'nowhere,' and failures continually occurring, commercial affairs have been decidedly under a cloud during the last fortnight. However, we hope things will improve now and that you will get better accounts by next steamer.

As regards the prospects of war or peace on the continent, we really know no more than you do, for the telegrams continually arriving are so exceedingly contradictory that it is impossible to say what a few hours may bring forth. We all hope for peace, but with more than a million soldiers already under arms in Italy, Austria and Prussia merely awaiting the signal for hostilities, 'quien sabe' whether Napoleon, a

Congress, or any other measure can avert war. The Italians are in a fury of excitement and eager for the fray.

Yours,
ALPHA.

NEWS FROM EUROPE.

The question of peace or war on the Continent engrosses public attention. At any moment the thread by which the tranquility of Europe hangs may be severed, and the din of battle ring in our ears. Diplomatic cunning, of the deepest and most treacherous character, is, we fear, the under-current of what mere spectators can observe. With Prussia at one side, and Italy at the other, Austria is placed in a position of the greatest uncertainty. Evidently, the Emperor Francis Joseph desires nothing but peace, and his enemies are engaged in preparing a snare. France professes neutrality, not inviolable, however, for she does not deny that circumstances may place her in the field. Everything that is presented to the public eye is as vague as diplomacy can make it, so that the moment at which a great war may break out is uncertain. The declarations of M. Rouher, in the French Chambers last week, amount to nothing more than this—that the French Government does not wish to go to war, or to aid one belligerent against another; but that it nevertheless reserves to itself a liberty of action so complete that neither the Chamber nor the country will have any right to complain should its troops be found a month hence in order of battle on the banks of the Elbe or of the Mincio. Count Bismark has long been seeking an occasion for war, and there can be very little doubt that Prussia is acting in perfect accordance with Italy, and the armaments now being made throughout the Peninsula are by no means of that purely defensive character which Italy would have them thought to be. We entertain little doubt that Prussia has entered into an understanding of some kind with Italy, and that it is well understood between them that if Austria can be disarmed on one side she is to be attacked on the other. Notwithstanding all the professions of the French Government it is impossible to believe that Italy would venture upon so terrible an expedient as a war with Austria unless she had an intimation, however informal, that she would receive powerful support. Count Mendsdorff has sent a final despatch to Prussia, in which he declares that in the face of Prussia's demand as to disarmament in Venetia, all the previous understanding as to disarmament falls to the ground. Count Mendsdorff asks with what conscience Prussia, a German power, can ask Austria to neglect taking precautions for the protection of the frontier of German territory. Meanwhile Saxony and Bavaria are preparing for war, evidently agreeing with the Earl of Clarendon's opinion expressed in the House of Lords on Tuesday night that peace is not certain for a day. Italy leaves no doubt whatever as to what are her intentions. If there could have been any before there can be none now. Garibaldi has been by Royal decree called to the command of twenty battalions of volunteers, who are to serve for one year. In all human probability the first gun will be fired in Italy within the next few days. That an understanding exists between the French Government, M. Bismarck, and Italy, no one now seems to have the slightest doubt, and the assertion that Italy has begun to arm only because she dreaded an attack from Austria is received with a derisive smile. Two or three months ago the project of the Italian Government for the reduction of its expenditure, and the relief of its financial burdens, was sent up to Paris for approval. As it was seen that considerable reductions in the army formed an item in the project, word was sent back to Florence that, whatever else was cut down, the army must suffer no diminution. This may be denied in Italy, but we have it from too good an authority to doubt it. The menacing aspect of affairs in Germany and Italy has produced great anxiety in Switzerland. The new cantonal councils of Berne, Uri, Schwytz, Solothurn, and Zurich are to meet this month, and it is expected that the debates in them will be of a very stormy character, in consequence of the reported alliance between France, Italy and Prussia, and also of the internal difficulties which have been raised in the country by the agitators of reform. The federal Council has already ordered the commanding officers in each canton to provide themselves with horses and prepare to put their contingents on a war footing with as little delay as possible. The Swiss consider that their neutral position in Europe is in great danger from the prospect of the alliance above

alluded to, and that their only chance lies in a military confederation of the Middle States of Germany against Prussia on the one hand, and a firm opposition by Austria to the projects of Italy on the other.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

Vienna, May 23.

The political situation is unchanged. The Vienna Cabinet is not in principle disinclined to take part in a Congress, provided that no definite programme for negotiation be laid down, but only a general endeavour to preserve peace be regarded as the object to be held in view at the conferences. Lord Cowley is shortly expected in Vienna.

The Vienna papers consider the outbreak of war, even supposing the Congress to be held, as inevitable. Military preparations continue, and patriotic manifestations are taking place.

Duke William of Württemberg will start to-day for Bohemia; the Archduke William, for Olmütz, on Saturday; and the Archduke Charles Louis, for Innsbruck.

The annual celebration of the Academy of Science in this city will not be held this year, on account of the present warlike state of affairs.

The Archduke Albrecht has addressed an order of the day to the troops under his command.

The 'Wiener Abendpost' states that the conclusion of an offensive and defensive treaty between Italy and Prussia is no longer denied.

According to a telegram from Berlin, the proposed Congress would make no change in the military position assumed by Prussia.

Prague, May 23.

All the State Treasuries in Bohemia, have received orders to forward all their available funds as quickly as possible to Vienna, in view of the danger of war.

Berlin, May 23.

The King of Prussia has forwarded a reply to the address presented to him on the 19th inst. by the Municipality of Breslau. His Majesty gives his Royal word as a pledge that no ambitious desire, not even such as would be justifiable in the interests of the common Fatherland, but the duty of defending Prussia and her sacred rights alone induced the King to arm his people.

The announcement of the journey of the King to head-quarters is premature and erroneous. Prince Frederick Charles will, however, start this week to assume his appointed command.

LATEST FROM UNITED STATES.

New York, May 12, Evening.

James Stephens arrived here yesterday evening in the steamer Napoleon, and was enthusiastically received. It is reported that he has been elected General Head Centre. Mahoney has resigned, previously removing Killian from the post of treasurer. Stephens stops at the Metropolitan Hotel, and receives a great number of visitors.

He was told that the Senate had advocated the invasion of Canada because Mahoney opposed it. He had procured the latter's election as Head Centre.

Roberts has had an interview with Stephens, and it is reported that the contending factions are becoming reconciled under the recognized leadership of Stephens.

Killian has issued a circular declaring the failure of the Eastport expedition to be only temporary. The few thousand dollars had been well spent, they having increased the existing complication, brought the British fleet with shotted guns within 100 yards of the American forts, caused the suspension of the Government of New Brunswick, and agitated the fishery question. He had selected the sensitive point between Great Britain and the United States. The north-west frontier was the gateway to Ireland.

The grand Jury of the Federal Circuit Court of Norfolk has indicted Mr Davis for treason. The court has adjourned until the first Tuesday in June, when it will meet at Richmond.

Judge Abell, of the first district of Louisiana, has decided that the Civil Rights Bill is unconstitutional and not binding on that court.

A part of the Grand Level of the Mississippi river has given way, flooding thirteen parishes of Southern Louisiana, and causing an immense destruction of property.

Yesterday the New York Chamber of Commerce protested against the proposed export tax on cotton.

News from St. Thomas announces that the steamer Styx left that port on the 1st May for Veracruz, with 1,200 French troops.

New York, May 12, Morning. It is rumoured that a Fenian movement had been organized at Buffalo. General Meade has been ordered thither.

The Fenians, who captured the schooner Wentworth, restored the vessel in a few hours, uninjured, to the captain. The party then landed on the coast of Maine.

General Steedman and Fullerton, the commissioners sent South to investigate the affair of the Freedman's Bureau, report from Wilmington that agents of the Bureau had been exercising arbitrary power and practising great cruelties upon freedmen. The Commissioners recommend the removal of all officers of the Bureau in Virginia and North Carolina, and the transfer of their duties to others.

The Senate has confirmed the appointment of General Sickles as Minister at the Hague.

The French Minister is reported to have explained that the French troops announced to have passed St. Thomas, on their way to Mexico, are only to replace, for the present, some whose term of service has expired.

It is announced that Stephens will make a tour in the States, in order to reorganize the Fenian circles preparatory to the development of a new plan of operations. No Irish bonds are to be issued at present. No prominent Federal State or Municipal official is yet reported to have visited Stephens.

Money abundant. Gold, 123½. Exchange on London, 11½; on Paris, 3f. 89c. Stocks firm, but little doing. New York Centrals, 95½; Illinois, 122½; Erie, 73½; Five-Twenty Bonds, 102. Cotton held firmly.

EXCITING ADVENTURE.

Business men complain of the number of holidays in this country, on the plausible excuse that they interfere with the counting-house, but these days of leisure are not without their advantage, for they afford an opportunity to suburban residents, to welcome their friends at the festive board, which during business days is almost out of the question. In a snug little quinta some 30 squares from the Plaza Victoria lives a hospitable Englishman, who eschewing the fashionable allurements of Calle Florida and Socorro, has settled down in the region of conventual piety and fathomless "pantanos"; but even in this retired spot fame pursued our countryman, and the votes of the free and enlightened citizens placed him in the Municipal chair over the star chamber of Cazon. Previous to this Municipal distinction the roads, streets and lanes which led to Honey Suckle cottage were in the very best repair, but by a strange freak of the elements scarcely had our countryman put on the town councillor's robes than the rain came, the wind blew, and the access to his retreat became impassable. Last Friday was a holiday and he gave a dinner party, to conclude with what is technically termed a 'tertulia': about 5 o'clock p.m. on Friday most of the elite of our English society might have been seen picking their way along Calle

Familiar as most of our readers are with the extraordinary way of landing at the mole-head in low water by means of a cart, they may possibly be unaware that going to a suburban dinner party in wintry weather is pretty much the same *modus operandi* with this difference that out in the quintas the safest and most fashionable conveyances are Cordovese bullock carts, and in the river the English horse-cart is in vogue; but to make a long story short, the guests when they arrived at the corner of Calle—were brought to a peremptory stand-still at a sort of muddy Estero Bellaco.

Our friend, mine host, however, was not unprovided, he knew the Estero as well as Mitre knows Itapiru, and with a more provident eye than the Commander-in-Chief, had a huge bullock-cart in waiting. Picture to yourselves, readers, some of our leading English merchants with their fair wives and daughters getting into a bullock cart drawn by a team of six tame bullocks, the tall commanding form of Mr. M. 'pearing' the bullocks, the ladies holding on to the side of the cart, and mere disposed to faint than smile. However, for such a contingency our friend was prepared, as we noticed close up to the 'pertiga' a distinguished M.D., who seemed to be possessed of that 'sangfroid' in the hour of danger so essential to all city physicians. Hardly had the Charon on the occasion commenced to ferry his fashionable passengers over the Stygian lake, when a carriage and four, bound for the same festive goal, became inextricably imbedded in the 'pantano': the plunging of the horses, 'ghee-ups' of the jarvey, and impatient sneezes of the gentlemen in patent-leathers inside, can better be imagined

than described; the bullock-cart was backed up to the coach and the gentlemen rescued. At last the Bellaco was crossed, and the party safely landed, after no inconsiderable trouble, at the hospitable portals of Honey-suckle Cottage, inside of which editorial curiosity dare not penetrate. Possibly some guests may have sung—

"Bear me not to festive bowers," the recollection of the bullock cart, fresh in the memory of the singer. But 'all that's bright must fade,' and long after midnight the old bullock-cart was again brought into requisition. By the faint glimmer of lamps, the guests were escorted to their South American barouche, and whether the mud was too deep, or the cart too far off, we cannot say, but certainly one gentleman in trying to hand a lady into the cart, got up to the shirt collars in mud; other misfortunes occurred, but enough. Let the readers of the 'Standard' draw a moral from this bullock-cart dinner-party. A member of the Municipal Board of Buenos Ayres invites some friends to dinner, and to get to his house the guests have to be conveyed in a bullock-cart. Can there be a more striking sarcasm on the neglect of the Municipality?

PUBLIC LANDS.

From the 'Tribuna.'

It is the popular conviction that the time has now arrived that the public lands should pass into the hands of private individuals, as the only means of improving the value of these immense camps that represent an enormous dead capital, and as a means of advancing our frontier line, which has remained stationary a number of years. Consequently each law, or project of law, formed or discussed with the idea of realizing this great advantage, is one step in a right direction; and although it should fail, as so many other laws have failed on the same subject, it will at least tend to make public opinion uniform, and prepare it for a law that may be effective and conform to the interests of capitalists, offering them an equal or greater profit than they could gain in other investments. We do not think the project of law regarding these lands, lately published in the 'Tribuna,' can be carried into effect for the following reasons:—

1st. It attacks the rights of present holders, obtained by great sacrifices, that may be valued at an average of \$30,000 per square league, so that they represent a capital of \$24,000,000 upon 800 leagues (at \$30,000) which is placed in danger, as no one, seeing the terms of this project, will be disposed to admit and pay for those rights.

2dly. This project, if carried into effect, would be equivalent to the expulsion of horned cattle from these camps, because even under a rent of \$4,000 per annum, they would yield but a very poor interest—(See Avelaneda—Estudios sobre las Leyes de Tierras publicas, fo. p. 283)—and would necessitate their withdrawal to the other side of the frontier line, or the abandonment of this branch of industry and the consequent depression of prices caused by this unfavorable change, would ruin many breeders of this class of stock. It is here requisite to mention that without doubt sheep will ultimately supplant cattle in these camps, and all our following calculations are consequently based upon this supposition.

3dly. The project of law is unrealistic, because the amount of capital to be transferred, and the consequent confusion which it will cause, have not been well considered, and although the second article of this project endeavors to obviate this error, it will only do it in part, because a great number of the rent contracts fall due about the same time.

Now, supposing the lands change hands we have to pay, say—

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes items like 'The holder's right (which we ought to suppose payable, in order that the present possessors may not be prejudiced)' valued at \$24,000,000.

Which represent the amount of capital required to be forced into this channel in an average term of two years.

To us it appears simply impossible unless the law proves so favorable that

other interests would be sacrificed in benefit of this investment.

But it is not so, and we will endeavor to prove this from exact data which we have before us.

We will take, for instance, a league of land in the partido of Chacabuco, its price being more the average, observing that the greater part of this partido appertained originally to that of Junin, and is only equal in pasturage and soil to that district, and it seem a great error that it should have been placed in the 3rd division as if equal in position and quality to the lands of Chascomus and Lobos.

To understand this notorious blunder of red-tape it is unnecessary to know that the camps of Chacabuco are composed of coarse grass (paja and puna) with a small clearance (guayco) here and there, so that the square league will scarcely maintain 3,000 sheep with any hopes of increase.

The place is notorious for invasions of Indians; the few inhabitants of the partido live in a continual alarm, taking refuge at every rumor in the fortified houses. It is well to mention that the Rincon de Rocha in this partido has always been one of the most favorite entrances of the Indians and the inhabitants still remember with terror that they live in a great unprotected opening (boqueron), that may lead to captivity and perhaps to death. This is the partido that is put on an equality with Chascomus and Lobos, and valued at \$250,000 by the square league.

The former law valued it at the same price, and it is our belief that as yet not one league of these lands has been purchased in property, and now will certainly not be, as the price is simply exorbitant, and the result will be that this unfortunate partido (which it is wished to advance for the benefit of the National Guards, whom it is the intention to reward with the squares and farms of the new town that is now forming) will fall under the ban of the 18th Art. of this project, which will retard for some years the improvement of these camps—the only means of bringing them into value.

But laying aside these observations, which are scarcely apropos to our endeavors to prove that this project is unrealizable, we take a league of land in Chacabuco, as we before stated, basing our calculations upon positive data—

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes 'The holder's right valued at (more or less)' at \$50,000, 'To Gov., the sixth of \$250,000' at \$41,000, etc.

Nett profit of first year say 10 per cent. on the capital employed.

But it may be said that we cannot expect great results the first year, but must look for them in the future; we will then try the result of the 2nd year, when it will be supposed that the capital of sheep may be duplicated, and that the land, having improved during the interval, will be able to maintain them.

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes 'Holder's right' at \$50,000, 'To Gov., for the right of property' at \$250,000, etc.

Nett profit of Fifth Year.

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes '750 ar. wool, at \$60' at \$45,000, '1200 increase, \$30' at \$36,000, etc.

And if to this poor result we add the many fatal contingencies that accompany the removal of sheep from soft to hard grasses, risks of Indians, &c., we are led to believe that only persons unable to calculate or wishing to rush blindly into ruin will invest in lands at these prices.

From all this it would appear that we have not seen the last law on the subject, and so long as laws on the sale of public lands have as their principal object the redemption of the paper money in a short time, they will never be sufficiently liberal to suit capitalists who can employ their money at 18 to 24 per cent. per annum in other investments.

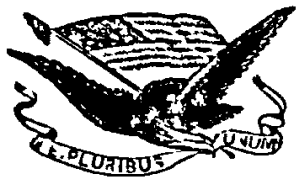
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THE WEEKLY STANDARD.

"Nil falsi andeum, nil veri non andeum dicere."
 CICERO.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 4, 1866.



THE FOURTH OF JULY, 1866.

Never was the anniversary of American Independence more deserving of especial mention than the present. Last year, although Americans had good reason to rejoice on the successful termination of the war, the martyrdom of Lincoln was an alloy which cast a gloom over the day. Time has however healed this wound, the hopes of the most enthusiastic friends of the Stars-and-stripes have been more than realized. The Union to-day enters on its 91st year, stronger, better, and grander than ever, and the rest of the universe gazes with wondering admiration on the triumph of principles and institutions which can now be termed imperishable.

The reconstruction of a country like the United States, after so long and sanguinary a domestic war, presented last year almost as difficult a problem as it appeared to quell the Southern rebellion when the old flag was first hauled down on the battlements of Fort Sumpter, and it is not easy to determine which has been the greater victory—the suppression of the rebellion by Grant and Sherman, or the reconstruction of the Union by Johnson.

The conclusion of the war witnessed the Union in the most critical state since its creation: its treasury empty, its trade paralysed, the North flooded with a paper-money which, from the magnitude of the emission, was deemed irredeemable, the South ruined, destroyed, and exhausted by the throes of revolution, and, in one word, the whole country plunged into a moral, political, and social chaos, out of which there was little room to expect aught save a military power, based on the ruins of Republican institutions.

The subject before us is so grand, so sublime, that it is not in a few paragraphs, customary on this day, that we can do it justice. If Divine interposition is traceable in the footsteps of Sherman's valiant march to the sea, and that the hand of Providence upheld the banner of the Union in the darkest hours of the war, it was more than human wisdom which has since guided state affairs, and held together the slender ties that bound up discordant elements and interests.

The late struggle can now be only regarded as a crucible through which all free and liberal institutions sooner or later are destined to pass. Happy, indeed, is it for America that this fearful ordeal is survived, but thrice happy is it for humanity at large that the Government which has so long afforded a home and shelter to the poor and needy from every land, still holds the portals of the west, and offers a hearty welcome to all.

When we behold a nation which only became warlike to maintain its integrity. When we see after the termi-

nation of the struggle, the quiet and peaceable disbandment of over half a million of men flushed with victory, and the wisdom of the Administration in eschewing wars and conquest, respecting the territorial rights of neighbors, and intent alone on the reconstruction of the Union. No language can express our admiration for that Government and that people.

The American Union is evidently blessed by Heaven; and bright as were the pages of its history, previous to 1861, still brighter are those which we now open and indite for posterity. Scarcely has the sun made its course in the zodiac since the suppression of the rebellion, and we find again the country teeming with industry and riches. The treasury, which this day twelve months was empty and exhausted, to-day boasts of seventy-six millions in gold and 69 millions in currency; and we have the testimony of a practical English railway-contractor who has just returned from the States, that whoever regards the national debt as a weight on the country, is alike ignorant of its incalculable wealth and its boundless resources.

To our American friends in this country we offer our most sincere congratulations on this great day. They have reason to be proud of their country, which is fast climbing to a zenith of greatness in industry, arts, sciences, commerce, and prosperity such as neither ancient nor modern history can afford a parallel.

THE WAR IN THE NORTH.

DESPATCHES FROM SINBAD.

BARON PORT ALEGRE'S MEN EXPECTED.

We have a long and interesting letter from Sinbad, dated Tranquera de Loreto, June 20th: they had a brush with the Paraguayans, near Apipé, on the 10th, and reached the Tranquera on the 12th, when Admiral Tamandaré's son started with an escort and chest of money in quest of Port Alegre and his men. On the 19th a messenger arrived with word that they were on the march, and would arrive in 3 days [22nd.] The letter will appear to-morrow.

ARRIVAL OF THE IBICUY.

TERRIBLE STATE OF CORRIENTES.

ARRIVAL OF THE MINISTERS.

Corrientes, June 29, 1866.

There has been nothing new from head-quarters since I last wrote; all the army correspondents, except Palleja, have cleared out. Sinbad first, then Antar, then Wenceslao Martinez; some are sick, some tired, all more or less disgusted at the interminable delays. The great topic of the day here is a lottery contract which Minister Cavia has concluded with C. A. Mendoza and Co. You can imagine the profits which this lottery business gives when I assure you that the company agrees to pay the Government six thousand patacons per annum. I believe the main object is to sell tickets to the officers and soldiers here and at head-quarters. As the matter is concluded, you may shortly expect to read in some letters from the allied camp that the only novelty is the arrival of a batch of small boys from this city, who run along the lines shouting out—"Ultimo quartito por mil onzas," or "Hoy se juega," or some such cries, whilst the enemy keep peppering away from their batteries and rifled pits. Here will be a subject for Antar to moralise on, who, if I recollect aright, in one of his letters stated that it was far better for the wounded Paraguayans to expire in their native woods than be carried to the hospital cured and sent back to fight again. Such is life.

Minister Rawson's note, announcing the convention ordered to consider the proposed reform of the Constitution, has been received and caused an uproar in the Government-house. What all this means is not clearly understood; people think it is a sort of practical joke played by the Minister in your city. There is not a white man in this province from the Governor down to the humblest gaucho, who cares one farthing about what the Constitution is or is not. Most people regard the Constitution as a humbug, particularly since Minister Costa arrived amongst us. He it was who some years ago stated that the Constitution was a sham. People have other fish to fry here, and you may do what you like with the Constitution, so as you send up some men and finish the war.

The Brazilians have a regular arsenal here in this city, and every day they are shipping up guns and ammunition, but great as has been the supplies of ammunition on hand, if the allies do not move on more supplies had better be sent from Rio, for they say here the gunpowder is running low.

The Piris lake, when there is water enough in it, will be the future scene of operations. The bombarding vessels which were here are to enter this lake, or to shell the enemy from behind, and more properly, 'round-the-corner,' these mortars can only command Curupaitá, which is a small fortress and would be razed in half-an-hour by your friend Johnson, in the Dotorel. Such roundabout arrangements to reduce so small a place cause ridicule here. Tamandaré will make a mistake if he sends his ships into Lake Piris, as frequently the water is so low that a row-boat cannot float in it.

Things are coming to a crisis in this place: the streets are filled with Brazilian officers and soldiers; every night we hear of the perpetration of some crime; there are a lot of 'chucho' soldiers going about the streets selling revolvers, bayonets and swords at such monstrously cheap prices as to leave no doubt whatever as to how the fellows came by them—prime revolvers a silver dollar; officers' swords same price, and bayonets, etc., almost for nothing. Uniforms are also sold the same way: I saw a fellow offering a good cloth cloak, evidently an officers' for FOUR REALS! It is high time that a stop should be put to such nefarious business.

W. Fernandez has got the chucho and is here in town: you need expect nothing from the vanguard.

The Parana is fast rising so that all the gunboats and iron-clads can safely go up to Curupaitá or Humaitá if the Admiral thinks proper to send them, but the river is blocked up and the allies will have harder work than they anticipate to get up at all; in fact I do not see how it can be done unless Tamandaré blows the sunken vessels up.

Minister Octaviano has at last arrived; he is regarded as the greatest diplomatist in South America; when he came ashore there was great anxiety to see him. I am told he is the head man of all and that even the Commander-in-chief must obey him. Dr. Costa is also in town: I saw the two Ministers walking arm in arm to the Hospital the other day. Costa looks like John Bull, whilst the Brazilian Minister with his spectacles on and stooped form reminds me of Dr. Syntax: what a nice couple to lay out for a week or two at the Estero Bellaco. Octaviano is so thin that probably hardship will make him grow fat, but Dr. Costa when he gets back to Buenos Ayres ought to be put in the scales and weighed; I will wager £5 that he loses at least an arroba in weight by this Estero Bellaco trip.

Respecting the war there is positively not a particle of news. As far as I can gather the allies are preparing for a simultaneous attack on the 9th July, but I believe until the recruits arrive there will be nothing done, but this is only my opinion. No one here knows what is doing. The friends of Lopez, or what is termed Paragnayados, all boast that the Triple Alliance is moonshine, and that the allies will have to give up the task they have undertaken, but this is their version of the matter. If Lopez comes out of this business with flying colors he will become Emperor of Paraguay, and then look out for squalls at Martin Garcia. The general belief here is that the Paraguayan army musters some 20,000 men all told.

The Baron Porto Alegre is still up country, and God only knows when he will come, no importance is attached to him, as he takes such a month of Sundays to arrive; some say he has crossed the river and is marching on Asuncion, and others that he is in the Misiones, but if you want to know the real truth I refer you to the 'Diario' of Rio.

Sinbad is anchored up at the Loreto and I fear will not return for some time, as the ships have been ordered to remain there.

Gold is very abundant here, but vegetables, &c., scarce. The rain and cold unusually severe, and blankets in demand.

Octaviano and Costa are now at headquarters; the former sends Pintos in the Paysandú on a special mission to Buenos Ayres—something up.

The Paraguayans are improving their torpedoes—a gunboat was nearly blown up the other day.

The enemy has made another line of fortifications, and my opinion is that the allies must get 10,000 more men before they attempt to storm by land.

CAVENDISH.

THE WAR IN THE WEST,

MAILS FROM THE PACIFIC.

Decree of banishments to Spanish residents—Government loans and paper-money—Alarm of United States intervention—Bloody revolutions in Bolivia—The Columbian Republics.

We have fies from Valparaiso to May 31st. The Government has decreed the banishment of all Spanish residents, and any found in the country after 30 days will be shot as spies. The 'Mercurio' thinks they nearly all must be shot, as they cannot go into Bolivia or Peru, and the Cordillera is also closed by the snows. If the decree be carried out it will be set down as the greatest atrocity ever committed in the sanguinary wars of South America. God help the inoffensive Spanish residents!

The Government is negotiating a loan of 6 million \$ from the Bank, and intends to suspend specie payments; paper-money will then be abundant. Last month no one would take the Bank-notes until Mr. Augustine Edwards put his endorsement on them. Efforts are being made to fortify Valparaiso. The Peruvian iron-clads are anxiously looked for. Nothing is known of the Spanish fleet, but the Tuscarora reports that they left several wounded Spaniards under care of the British Consul at Guayaquil.

Fears are entertained of an intervention by the United States as Mr. Seward seems so friendly towards Spain and the latter country has solicited American arbitration in the Pacific questions.

Advices from Lima report a grand ovation on the 13th May, in reception of the artillery who served at Callao. Triumphant chariots, arches, garlands, and a grand Te Deum at which the Dictator Prado assisted. All the Spanish residents have been again set at

liberty: while in prison they were allowed $\frac{1}{2}$ a dollar each per diem. Gen. Castilla on returning from exile was enthusiastically received at Callao, and conducted in triumph to the residence of Mr. Conroy.

The Ecuadorian envoy presented his credentials at Lima, joining the alliance against Spain. Gen. Mosquera arrived at Panamá from England, to assume the Presidency of New Granada.

From Bolivia we hear of two more revolutions. The prime-minister, Dr. Oblitas, made a revolt in Potosi, declaring himself Dictator instead of Melgarejo, but was forced to escape 10 days later. Dr. Barragan, just returned from Europe, also declared himself President, but was overpowered, conveyed to Oruro and shot (May 5th).

The barque Rachel from New Zealand entered Valparaiso in 29 days. The Chilean press now praises the tone of the Argentine Government and press on the bombardment of Valparaiso.

LATEST FROM MONTEVIDEO.

THE MERCHANTS PETITION.

ANOTHER EMISSION OF HALF-A-MILLION.

THE SPANISH FLEET AND CHILIAN CRUISERS.

Montevideo, July 2nd.

It was just as I expected with your deputation from Buenos Ayres: the gentlemen were politely received, but got no definite answer on their business. The merchants here are also going the rounds with a petition, but the 'Siglo' declares it is only a loss of time, as the Government cannot repeal its decree, until the state of the Banks permits with safety a resumption of specie-payments. The alleged motive for the decree was not without some reason, for the exportation of gold to Rio would otherwise have become extraordinary: the Arno took over 20,000 sovereign to Rio, and the business promises great profits, the premium on each sovereign being 3½ shillings or 18 per cent. On Saturday the Mauá Bank published a notice that they are going to emit another half-million paper-dollars, guaranteed by the sum of \$301,000 lately received in gold. The Commercial Bank publishes a refutation of 'Mercator's' charge of hostility by the sister-banks against Mauá: it seems the Commercial not only engaged to keep at least 100,000\$ of Mauá bills in its chest, but even offered a loan of 100,000\$ in gold for any Mauá securities; and when specie-payments were suspended the Commercial had actually 200,000\$ of Mauá notes in its hands. They will not mend the crisis by making such a noise about 'rival' banks: better wait the current of events and let the storm blow over.

The 3 Spanish war-vessels are down at Maldonado, where there is still some talk of Chilean privateers: another ship-captain reports a two-masted steamer off the mouth of the river. The Henriette is said to have called at Maldonado, en route for the West Coast, and picked up three Argentine youths who had arrived from Buenos Ayres and were stopping some days with Sor. Carreras, the English vice-consul, on the pretext of a fowling-excursion. Admiral Nuñez has not yet arrived with the Pacific squadron. A correspondent from New York tells a good story about the new steamer Oriental: Sor. Tassara, the Spanish Minister suspected she was equipped for the Chileans, and actually got an order from Washington for her detention, but when the order arrived the Oriental was luckily already on the way for the River Plate.

Some Italians have taken offence at the notice of one Major Graffigni,

offering to enlist his countrymen in a Garibaldi battalion for the Italian war: they say he has no authority for doing so, that any Italians wishing to fight for Venice can do so without enlisting under an officer whose invocation of Brazilian titles is a sarcasm on Garibaldi. Another alarm about gunpowder is afloat, and it is said there is enough in Fort San José to blow-up the city: probably it is a depot of Brazilian ammunition, a large supply of which has arrived in the Evelyn.

Morgan the dentist says he has been again robbed, and even publishes a list of jewellery &c. which he states were abstracted from his trunks by some thieves who must have got in through a sky-light. The Exhibition committee invite the public to send in articles for Paris, and it is likely Montevideo will be, as usual, better represented than her neighbors at the great industrial Exposition.

The American steamer Isabella, co-signed to Mr. Robert Wilson, went aground on Friday night off the Rompe Olas. It was 9 p.m. when she entered port, and lay off the Tajamar waiting for the port officer's visit: this official ordered the Captain to shift his position, and the pilot steered her towards Mr. Wilson's anchorage, but went so close inland that the captain cautioned him, to which he replied "that he understood his business," and just then the steamer went aground. The Italian vessel Regina and other foreign stations lent every assistance on Saturday to get her off, but without effect, as the tide was falling. It was known that there was much water in her hold: at length by 1.20 p.m. on Sunday she was got afloat, considerably damaged, as appears from the report of Captain Briggs published in the 'Telegrafo.'

Such occurrences as this are unluckily too frequent, and I would venture to say that Mr. Pfeil's scheme for improving the port would completely prevent these calamities.

From Salto we hear of a shocking catastrophe: a lady named Acosta and her 3 nephews smothered from incautiously sleeping in a room with a charcoal fire. A young man named Rafo was accidentally shot by a friend playing with a pistol. In a fight with knives one gaucho killed another, near the new Plaza. The new Gefe, Martinez, is well liked: he is forming a new market.

From Paysandú we have files of the 'Comercio': Col. Mundell with his 2 orderlies and 2 policemen has returned from Salto: the object of his journey is unknown, but supposed to have connection with getting horses for the army in Paraguay.

ARRIVALS.

- Onegen Marie, with general cargo from London.
- Armonia, from Rotterdam for Buenos Ayres.
- Camilla, Casanova, and Monte Alegre, from Genoa.
- Valenciana, from Cadiz with salt for Buenos Ayres.
- Pepina, and Angela, with wine for Buenos Ayres.
- Dan, from Newcastle with coal for Buenos Ayres.

SAILED.

- Carlotta Marina, for Marseilles and Genoa.
- Fligarson-Son, for Antwerp.

A TRIP TO ROSARIO.

(Communicated).

We left Buenos Ayres on board the Esmeralda with the attentive and obliging Capt. Price, in whose vessel we were saved the many inconveniences peculiar to small river steamboats. A thick fog obliged us to cast anchor at the mouth of the Paranágnazú, where we remained all night, starting again next morning. At 5.30 p.m. we reached San Pedro, and at midnight San Nicolas de los Arroyos: the arroyos which give it its name are,

the Ramallo below, and the Arroyo Medio above the town, which is an important river-port. We landed some passengers, took in cargo and started again, reaching Rosario next morning at 7 o'clock.

I put up at the Hotel de la Paix, and was surprised at the comfort and luxury of this hotel, which is equal to its namesake in Buenos Ayres: there are two magnificent dining-rooms, the walls hung with neat engravings, and the breakfast was served up in superior style and abundance. At 12 o'clock I sallied forth to see the Grand Central Argentine railway-works, the terminus of which is placed on a 'barranca' overlooking the Paraná, about half a mile above the city. As I gazed on the works of this colossal enterprise I contemplated how much the Argentine Republic is indebted to the illustrious Mr. Wheelwright, and what wonderful changes his genius is effecting in the country. Sheds of all sizes, machinery of every kind and form, workmen of all nations, and the greatest bustle and activity on all sides. Foreign vessels come up and unload alongside the 'barranca,' which is about 200 feet high: the materials are discharged by means of a steam-crane which hoists them up to a wharf, and hence they are carried off by waggons running on a tramway. For a superficies of 300 yards around the sheds and workshops, we see nothing but piles of rails, sleepers, bolts and other railway materials. I saw one of the locomotives, called the 'Mendoza,' and it seemed the strongest and best finished I have ever seen.

I could fill pages with a description of all I saw and admired at the railway-works, but I leave such a task for abler hands. I will merely say in conclusion that all my countrymen should feel grateful to Mr. Wheelwright, who is worth all the Governors and Generals we have had since Independence: Rosario is visibly going-ahead, more and more every day, thanks to the railway, which promises in a few years to make it a great and flourishing city.

An Argentine Citizen.

THE SWISS COLONIES IN SANTA FE.

GRAND RIFLE FESTIVITIES

GOVERNOR OROÑO'S EXCURSION.

The rifle-club of the San Carlos colony, after the manner of their countrymen in Switzerland, have a grand shooting-match every year. The fetes usually last three days, during which all labors are suspended and the sports kept up with enthusiasm. Governor Oroño, having been invited to attend, started on Saturday morning [2nd inst.] with a retinue of 20 gentlemen, including several public officials. About a league before reaching the colony, His Excellency was welcomed by a batch of mounted colonists.

On reaching the colony the Governor passed under a triumphal arch erected for his reception, and found the whole Rifle-club drawn up, with their shining rifles, and a band of music at their head. The whole assembly then proceeded to the rifle-ground, and the match began. The rifles were of superior quality, and the precision of firing was something admirable. Governor Oroño complimented the skilled marksmen on their great dexterity, remarking how much superior was their national amusement to either horse-racing or cock-fighting, and that it would be well if all the Argentine frontiers had such riflemen to keep back the Indians.

After the rifle shooting there was a sumptuous dinner served up in the house of M. Denner, a thriving colonist, who gave a ball in the evening which passed off merily. Next day Sunday the Governor proceeded to hear Mass at the Catholic chapel: this is a small and humble edifice, recently built, of solid materials, but too small for the congregation. The curate made a short sermon in French, Italian, and Spanish. After Mass an animated scene occurred at the door, friends and relatives rushing to embrace each other as they probably had not met for some time. The Governor then proceeded to inspect the colony, and was forcibly struck with the wonderful alteration wrought, in 10 years, in these camps which were not long since Indian hunting-grounds: on all sides smiling fields, fine plantations and neat houses. These industrious people raise large crops, but they do not enjoy the fruits of their labors: the company of speculators in whose hands the administration of the colony rests grind these poor people down for large dividends, and the Government cannot interfere with legal contracts rashly entered into between the colonists and their speculators. We found one poor family exposed to all the inclemency of the weather, their house having been

burnt down: the Governor put down his name to head a subscription for their relief. At night we got news of the victory of May 24th over the Paraguayans, and another ball took place.

On Monday morning, after giving, a prize to the best rifle-man, the Governor started with a deputation from Coronda to visit their place: it has a picturesque and gay appearance, surrounded with orange-groves, and the women are remarkably handsome. We had another ball here, same night, and reached Santa Fé on the morning of the 5th inst.

El Tiempo.

THE ENGLISH BALL at the COLISEUM.

Messrs. Editors:

To meet the wishes of some friends who could not attend, and of others, from reasons best known to themselves, who would not, I give you the following sketch of the English Ball of the 28th, too meagre I know for what was really splendid and brilliant beyond expectation; for, if beauty and animation, gaiety and youth be the criterion for such reunions, then the English Ball on the evening of the 28th will rank with anything it has ever been my lot to witness. As the locality is well-known the saloons needs no description, and even if they did, no art can never vie with nature, it would be ill-timed, if not impious, to contrast stoue walls and poor paintings with the *chef d'œuvre* of Nature herself, like the Yankee, "I like not stoue 'gals.'" I shall simply remark that everything had been done to render the place a meet receptacle of all that is lovely and gay. At half-past ten some carriages began to arrive and at twelve the saloons were full to excess, *jam Cytherea choros ducit Venus*. The sight was evidently superb and reflected immensely on all the gentlemen managers, who were all attention, while the stewards flew around like so many Mercuries [!] eager to fulfil the slightest wishes of the *Dii majores*. It is not for me to praise these gentlemen—I leave those who had the happiness and good taste to be present to judge for themselves, but it is my opinion that the names of Cranwell, Dominick and Murray will go down to posterity as the founders of what we will call an institution, as the gentlemen who first had the courage to conceive and the pluck to carry out an idea, independent of the senior magnates of the place, no less a satisfaction to themselves than joy and hope to their friends, and, indeed, to all those whose hearts are not so old that they can still sympathize with the charms and gaieties of youth.

The moment I heard of it I declared it a success, and, though far away, resolved to be present, convinced that such occasions are rare, where youth alone holds sway; so, as I never expected to find, I did not, any of that apathy and mouldiness so peculiar to the old formality balls, say of some two old dowagers, a rich retired linen-drapeer, a wholesale mustard-merchant and a banker.—Would to God we never grew old. But to return to the ball—to light and life—how shall I describe it? Shall I first enter the refreshment room, [I think you would do well]? Strange one should draw inspiration from a bottle, but so it is! Draw a cork, and inspiration follows! [snapper discovery!] Wine (and this was good) which maketh glad the heart of man—so says the Scripture, say I, so said the great Pitt, or, if he did not, drank it, which says the same thing, and so say a thousand others, who are neither you nor I.

A connoisseur was evidently at the head of this department—God bless him for the thousand and one delicacies of that delicious night. I knew I had done right; the star of life within became momentarily greater; the movement alongside was so exciting my heart went as if moved by 99 horsepower; I could stand it no longer and rushed out—*Nunc pede libero pulsanda tellus*. Just fancy, dear Editor, just fancy, I say, some one hundred of the very loveliest females ever created, surrounded and courted by as many manly honest gentlemanly fellows as it has ever been my lot to witness—mind, all men with souls—just imagine, if you can, all these (God bless them) heart to heart, and step to step, with their souls breathing purer harmony (forget if you can those momentary pangs of jealousy) than the music to whose moving sound they whirled round the room, pass before your eyes in all the pleasures and ecstasies of the dance. Well might Bulwer Lytton decry the apathy of the moderns, compared with that passion and soul thrown into the dance by the Classic Greek and Roman. Alas! had he been here the other night he might well have reason to recant. It was a thing to see, not to describe, a "joyous thing, a thing to feel." Had I been a Bramin I would have dropped

down prostrate before this moving panorama of life and beauty, and be surer of heaven than if the wheels of the mighty Juggernaut itself had passed over and crushed all the bones of my body. It would be vain, indeed, to sing the praise of the many lovely maidens present, nay, a mockery, where all was harmony, beauty, and love. I would conjure up many bright images, but if you approve of Mahomet's paradise you will have a faint idea of the beautiful hours of the English Ball.

O who young Mary's glance could read
And keep that portion of his creed
Which says that woman is but dust,
A soulless thing for tyrant's lust:
On her might Muftis gaze and own
That through her eye the immortal shone.

Your old friend,
WILL HONEYCOMB.

P.S.—The widow was as perverse as ever.

CARMELO.

District of Juan Gonzalez,

30th June, 1866.

To the Editors of the 'Standard.'

Gentlemen,
As many of your readers, who have friends in this neighbourhood, will be glad to hear how we are getting on, I have great pleasure in stating that the camp in this quarter is in first rate order, and that sheep and other stock are in a thriving condition. The increase in flocks, averages from 25 to 30 per cent, and should the winter continue and finish as it has commenced, no sheep farmer will have reason to grumble at the badness of the season. Perhaps you and your readers are not aware, that there is quite a Scotch and English colony here. I can count 8 families independent of single men, who are all rapidly prospering, besides the dwellers on three estancias of Mr. Bell, comprising upwards of 8 leagues of land, all by-and-by to be occupied by Scotch families. You will not be surprised to learn then, that to meet the moral wants of this small community, we receive monthly visits from a Clergyman, but who in course of time, I have reason to believe, will come to reside permanently in our midst. I had the pleasure of attending the first gathering, which took place at the 'Major-domo's' house of Mr. Bell's central estancia. There were upwards of 30 people present, including one native gentleman, who doubtless wished to set a good example to his foreign peones and puesteros. The Rev. Mr. McNeil delivered an eloquent and heart-stirring discourse to his small but attentive congregation, many of whom had thereby an opportunity of hearing preached, that very same word which had been proclaimed in their ears in olden times, in their native land. The word of God is like God's mighty ocean of waters. The very same waves that dash against the shores of our native land and perhaps against the walls of our native town, may on some future day ripple on the beach at our feet, in the far off land of the stranger. At the conclusion of the services a general meeting was held of the male part of the congregation, when a local Secretary and Treasurer were appointed with the view of raising subscriptions to secure a monthly visit from the Clergyman. Mr. McNeil explained that he travelled through the Banda Oriental, preaching where he could get a sufficient number to attend. As yet very little exertion had been made to collect funds, but he was proud to state, that a few had come forward and subscribed liberally. At Paysandú a good number had given their names for various sums, and Mr. Drysdale had pledged himself for £50 from his estancia alone, while here Mr. Bell had guaranteed the handsome sum of £100 from his estancias. A subscription list was produced and handed round, and nearly all present signed their names. The movement thus started, who knows where it shall end? Every year the Banda Oriental is becoming more civilized, and this corner of it more thickly peopled with the brawny sons of Scotia. Is it too much to expect that, if we cannot, our children may enjoy the privileges of a country church and schoolroom, with week-day social gatherings, and reading rooms and libraries and all the other little comforts to be met with in a favoured spot in the country at home? It is not impossible especially if an impetus be given by those of large hearts and heavy purses. With this end in view, I would gently and faintly hint to a large landed proprietor, that in the plan understood to be in preparation, for the erection of a magnificent estancia house on the banks of the Uruguay opposite Martin Garcia, room be allowed for the building of a small and modest church. Then it may be, at no distant day, when the crowded steamer glides past the island fort, the ear of the pleasure-seeker may be, not only startled with the frightful

boom of the cannon's roar, the horrid sound of war, but be gently stilled by the Sabbath bell, the solemn herald of the gospel of peace!

I am &c.

A. SCOT.

THE SOUTH CAMPS.

Magdalena, June 25, 1866.

To the Editors of the 'Standard,'
Gentlemen,
Since I last wrote, the weather has been very disagreeable; when it is not raining it is freezing, in such a manner that it carries off all the newly-born lambs. In my last I said if the weather kept dry we should double our losses of last 'seca,' but it has not, and the consequence is, that we will have a decrease in place of an increase in our flocks. The grass that was only a fortnight ago a foot high is now completely burnt down to the roots, leaving the camps destitute of any food for our sheep and horses. How we shall get through this winter passes my comprehension; it is really frightful to see; one would never have thought that after such a fine autumn such bad weather would have set in. As for the cattle I need not speak of them, they are dying off by the dozen, actually for want of food. You can ask any person from our quarter if my words are not true; it is most heart-rending to describe: how they are in other places it is hard to say. Capones are not selling at all—too thin for the market—and as for the ewes no one thinks of buying them. The only thing we shall have to depend on, this next season, is the wool, but I fear it will be in a very poor state, and then, as a matter of course, the brokers will have an excuse for not giving a high price for it. I must now close, for I must go and take my turn with the sheep, as they are on the rodeo: it is raining and blowing very hard while I write this, 9 p.m.

Your humble servant,
A POOR IRISHMAN.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The Guarani leaves to-morrow for Corrientes. She is one of the most commodious steamboats in the river and quite new. Mr. Lanus, the army contractor leaves in her.

Dr. Fleury from Paysandú paid us a visit yesterday; he has just arrived from Urquiza's palace, San José, where he has been experimenting on the General's sheep, and now goes to Montevideo. We understand that he is about to send to the Paris Exhibition a cured ox with hide on. This will probably be the most interesting specimen sent from these countries.

The Alsua-bridge, or rather the place where it once stood, is now visited by crowds. We hear that the escape of the peon when driving over the cattle was perfectly miraculous, and several animals were drowned. The roads in the vicinity are blocked up and almost impassable for carts, owing to the mud. A neighbor wishes to know if the Government intends to order the erection of another bridge.

All camp produce from the South now comes into town by rail. Owing to the shocking state of the roads the Southern Railway is doing a splendid business.

Governor Oroño of Santa Fé is really one of the best and most active governors in the Republic. A new land law, under his auspices, is about to be introduced, which gives land (a league) and stock, and actually pays the expenses of families from Buenos Ayres to Rosario. We purpose publishing in full to-morrow this new land law. The Governor has not forgotten his soldiers that he sent to the war. After the last bloody battle he wrote to Avalos in Corrientes requesting him to send down all wounded officers and soldiers belonging to Santa Fé; Cabal, with his usual liberality, lent a steamer, and 36 soldiers and 7 officers have been sent to Rosario; there are still 2 officers and 7 soldiers to be sent down by next steamer.

There will be no 4th July public dinner to-day; the reason of this we are not aware, but several private dinners are given by our American friends to keep up the glorious 4th July.

The Oriental arrived yesterday morning early from Montevideo. This steamer is now becoming the most favorite ship in the river—she is decidedly the best.

The latest we have from the war is that Admiral Murature is coming down with the Argentine squadron to load horses.

The Paysandú arrived yesterday at midday with a Brazilian Commander of note (Pintos) on board; he landed attended by nearly a dozen of aid-camps.

Mr. Legout, the imprisoned French editor, tries by appeal this week his case with the Bank. Dr. Cardenas is the Bank Counsel.

The auction at Peto and Betts' yard, in Barracas, which took place on Monday last, was very well attended: people even came from Chascomus and other country parts. The large shed was purchased by Sr. Haedo for the Western Railway, who also bought the cast-iron screw piles, to be used in the construction of a railway bridge: he also bought a lot of telegraph wire. Mr. John Marshall was one of the largest purchasers, and infused spirit amongst the buyers, to the great satisfaction of the renowned auctioneer, Sr. Dn. Mariano Billinghurst, who from a commanding position harangued the concourse in his usual energetic style. Mr. Marshall bought the steam lathe. Mr. Younger purchased largely. Dn. Federico Gandara, of Gandara, bought several lots. At half-past 3 the auction closed, having given the most satisfactory result. The four iron schooners were not offered at the auction, but are to be disposed of by private treaty, as will be seen by an advertisement in our columns.

Respecting the Great Southern Railway, it is our pleasing duty to state that the damage lately done to the line is completely repaired, and the road is at present in the most efficient working order; and such works have been constructed as to render it in future proof against the elements. The trains run with the greatest punctuality, and passengers almost daily testify in our office to the untiring efforts of Mr. Banfield, the manager. The road is doing as much business as it can at present well attend to. The railway is at present paying 5 per cent. on the capital, and by the table of receipts, we are glad to see that the passenger traffic is every day steadily increasing.

Last night the Committee of Merchants was to have left for Montevideo with the resolutions adopted at the late meeting at the Bolsa, to present same to the Oriental Government. In consequence of the unfavorable reception of the Montevidean Committee, many parties doubt as to how the Committee from Buenos Ayres will be received. We believe, however, as there is nothing whatever objectionable in the resolutions, and no aspersion have been cast on any banking institution or member of the Government, it is probable that the committee will be well received. The merchants both here and in Montevideo are so determined to carry the resolutions adopted, that we believe the managers of the banks will find it their own interest to conform, as, from what we can gather, the most studied hostility will be made against any bank that refuses. The merchants of Montevideo have put at their bill-heads a clause, that all sales made are payable in gold. The lawyers have been consulted, and they have given it as their opinion that to enforce payment in gold will necessitate a lawsuit with each and every one of the dealers, and even then it would be difficult to say how it would be decided. The Fiscal has been applied to for his opinion, which he declines to give. As to specie payments, all agree with our Montevidean correspondent, that until the war concludes there is not the remotest probability.

We call the attention of our colleague, the 'Nacion Argentina,' and those who so positively contradicted our statement respecting the Paraguayan torpedoes, to the fact that the Brazilians have already fished up two enormous torpedoes, with some 300 lbs. of gunpowder in each. They are badly made, however, and the water has got at them.

Dr. Alfonso de Maria publishes the customary notice from the Public Credit Office stating that the interest will be paid on the National Bonds during the first eight days of July.

The new American steamer has a clock which counts the motions of the paddles: in the trip from Montevideo to this port the number marked is 9592.

A measure has been introduced in Congress for the extension of the capital bill, that is to say, for the continuance of the capital in Buenos Ayres for another three years.

A most lamentable catastrophe occurred at the Cerro, in front of Montevideo, on last Saturday. It seems that during the storm the lightning struck a thatched house, setting the house on fire and killing a Basque woman who was sitting with her child in the room, the child escaped; the neighbours seeing the house on fire went in and found the poor woman burnt to ashes, and the child crying. The husband of the unfortunate woman on returning from the saladero where he was working to the spot which was once his happy home, was so afflicted at the appalling catastrophe that he lost his senses.

We read in one of the Corrientino papers that several caciques have arrived from the Chaco and gone up to the Brazilian squadron to consult with

Tamandaré. It is said in Corrientes that these chiefs have called their tribes together, and that they are about to enter into an alliance with Brazil to invade Paraguay from the Chaco side above Humaitá.

There is great mystery about what the Club Libertad is doing; it is said that some of the members have a letter from headquarters, the contents of which we are ignorant of, but it is pretended to be of the most startling importance.

On last Sunday the friends of the late Professor Jacques removed his remains to their last resting-place: the ceremony was well-attended and several orations were pronounced.

A most scandalous scene occurred in a private house in Calle Esmeralda the other day; the lady of the house gave a party, it being the birthday of one of the children; a man entered and with the most scandalous language threatened to murder any one who attempted to leave the house; luckily no fight ensued. It was really a most scandalous affair, and our friend Cazon, who of late keeps very quiet, ought to send all the vigilantes we see standing the whole day at the door of the Policia to look up this fellow.

Last night the Rio de la Plata, which is now no longer an English steamer, took down the supplementary mail.

The Brazilian floating-battery Fuerte Coimbra is at last at Corrientes. It cost the Brazilians great trouble to get this vessel up the river: she has a 13-inch mortar and two 32-pound rifled guns. She is destined for the bombardment of Humaitá.

All offers or proposals for the publication of the debates in Congress must be sent in before the 5th July next.

Congress has positively nothing to do; the Senate did not meet on Tuesday, there being no business before the house.

The departure of Dr. Costa is greatly talked of; we notice that our colleague the 'Nacion' hints at an important council of war as it is probable the direction of the campaign will be changed; we think with all due respect for Marshall Osorio, President Mitre is by far the most competent commander-in-chief, and that the allies ought to be very slow in making so important a change.

Lopez, we hear, has his men employed in building ranchos in his fortified camp. This looks as if no very active movements can be made for a month or two. From 'Sinbad' we hear nothing, he left with the expedition sent for the Baron Port Alegre and has not yet returned; possibly by the Guarani we may get a letter. Our correspondent in Corrientes seems to have forgotten us this mail or thought probably that there was nothing worthy of a letter.

A private letter from Rio Janeiro states that for two days there was such a run on the London & Brazilian Bank that for a few hours it was obliged to close its doors; the Bank of Brazil came to its assistance, and by latest advice it was paying away the same as usual.

"Mercators'" article on the banks caused a great noise in the mercantile world yesterday: of course it was an ex-parte statement, but we cannot shut our columns to any article that contains nothing scurrilous or abusive. We publish to-day Mr. Drabble's answer to "Mercator."

On Wednesday the vigilantes, who as a rule never get their boots cleaned, made a descent on the shoe-blacks in the plaza, and walked off with a large portion of this industrious and useful body, to the Policia. Coming from the Bolsa we were astonished to witness a lot of vigilantes with blacking-brushes and empty gin-boxes under their arms; thought we, Cazon has at last determined to make the vigilantes do something in the shape of brushing the boots of the public gratis; but we soon found out our mistake for the wailing of the Italian boys at the despotic fiat of the Chief of Police, was something unmistakable. We suppose all the shoe-blacks were at once put in the stocks with their stock in trade, or fined heavily for cleaning the boots. Cazon did not call at our office yesterday to look at the Paraguayan torpedoes; we suppose he kept away on account of the shoe-black question.

The Polish subscription list is now closed, amounting to \$38,100; the sum would no doubt have been much larger but for the war and many contributions lately collected in this city. The list comprises 86 names, being headed by the Archbishop and Messrs. Estrada, Anchorena, and Llavallol. The Lecture at the Coliseum produced \$9000, the Beneficencia society contributed \$5,000, and among the list of subscribers the following names of foreign residents occur: Rev. Canon Fahy \$500, A lady £3, Thos. Armstrong \$250, Rev. Thomas Curran \$200, J. Thompson, \$130, Edward Dillon \$100,

Demarchi bro. \$100, R. Legout \$100, the 'Standard' \$100. Canon Mikoszewski leaves on Saturday, after offering up a thanksgiving at the Cathedral for the welfare of the Friends of Poland.

In Thursday's 'Tribuna' we notice an excellent communicated article on the public land question, which we intend to publish in English on Sunday. The writer evidently has read what appeared in the 'Standard' on Wednesday, for he follows out our argument, and shows that the stock on a square league of land in Chacabuco does not give one per cent. a month on the capital invested. We are well pleased to see native estancieros taking our view of this question: it augurs well. The Government price of land at Chacabuco is \$250,000 per square league. The camps are open, exposed, and coarse; no sheepfarmer can attempt to put flocks on them until first well-eaten down by cattle, which requires at least three or four years to effect. Now, it is a well-known fact, that the cattle business is a losing trade; therefore a man who wishes to start a sheep estancia in Chacabuco, must begin by embarking in a losing business for four years, which, when added to the Government cost price, and enteisitis right, makes the square league of land in Chacabuco, in reality cost over half a million currency. It is evident from this that the price the Government proposes to put on these lands admits of a very great reduction, yet, in fact, from what we can gather from the farmers, unless the price be reduced, say to \$100,000, or \$150,000 there will be no buyers, for the days are passed when fancy prices will be paid for 'paja' camps and half Indian territories.

The business of the District Federal Courts in this city has so wonderfully increased, that a project has been laid before Congress to name a second District Judge, that is to say, one at the civil and the other at the criminal side.

Dr. Velez Sarsfield's first volume of the 'Civil Code' has been laid before Congress to become a law. We looked through this work last summer: it is mainly taken from the Code Civil and Code Napoleon. The laws, &c., are decidedly more French than English, and it will work a great change in the laws respecting married women.

Mr. Reinken's first Subscription Concert will come off on Saturday the 7th July at 8 o'clock. We hear from an uninterested person that it will be first-rate. The next rehearsal will take place on Saturday the 30th inst. at 7.30 precisely.

The American war-steamer Nipsic has left Montevideo for Rio Janeiro. We hear that shortly one of the American war vessels will be despatched direct from the River Plate to the States.

We regret sincerely to say that our last advices from Ranchos announce that Dr. Sheridan was dying; the doctors had given him up, and all hope of his recovery gone. Dr. Sheridan has a wide circle of friends in Buenos Ayres; we ardently hope that he may recover—"Whilst there is life there's hope."

The Provincial Senate was to have met last night, but, probably owing to the wet weather, there was no quorum.

The first railway in Entre Rios will be opened to the public on the 9th July; General Urquiza may be considered the constructor; Governor Dominguez will attend on the occasion. The line is short, running from Gualeguay to the Port of Raiz, but it will probably do a great traffic, as the business of the place is rapidly increasing.

The Caledonian weather still continues, and our Portefaia friends are beginning to get accustomed to what we call a Scotch mist: fine weather for the camp, but miserable for the town; the streets full of mud, and all the shoe-blacks in the stocks, rather a nice state of things.

Our active correspondent in Paraná sends us the following despatch:—The steamer Portefaia arrived at Paraná on Thursday night, and left at 10 a.m. for the Paso de la Patria, after taking in a quantity of fowls, sheep, and other provisions: Minister Octaviano on board, he did not land. News none from above; what the steamer brings it is useless to recapitulate. The nights of 20th, 21st, and 22nd have been fine, with severe frosts; glass 5 below freezing point; ice 3/4 of an inch thick; days fine, with sun.

The Boca Railway is now doing not only a splendid passenger traffic business but also a great freight trade. The roads to the Boca are fearful, and the cartmen refuse to go for less than \$60 per trip. The railway receives cargo at the Venezuela Station and discharges same at the Boca for \$11 per cart-load. The trains are now every evening so thronged with passengers that the station reminds one of a terminus in England.

Respecting the new bridge at Barracas there is an awful row, as the empresario wants to construct it on the very site of the old bridge, which seems to be absolutely out of the question, as it would impede all transit for months.

The Medical Society of Buenos Ayres has called a meeting of its members to subscribe funds for a library. Quercus, what ever became of the Circulo Literario? we understand the books are all huddled in a corner in the University; they certainly ought to be returned to the donors.

There is a great noise about what the Custom-house officers are doing on board the ships in the outer roads, seizing pocket-handkerchiefs, shirt-collars, cravats, empty barrels, and such like, on the plea that they are not on the manifest. It is high time that the collector, Sr. Aguirre, should put a stop to this, as it brings the greatest discredit and odium on the Port of Buenos Ayres, and in the end tends to drive up freights at home, owing to the unwillingness of captains to come to the River Plate.

The British barque Warwickshire will shortly leave for Valparaiso. This is a favorable opportunity for those who wish to go to the West Coast.

Owing to the constant drought in the camp in previous years, the paja or straw which was formerly cut in the lagunas for thatching puestos has completely vanished; the result is that there is a great demand for shingles, which are now becoming the favourite roof in the camp; it lasts longer and is cheaper than zinc; at all puestos shingles are invariably used.

The estancia auction at Calle Bolivar No. 16 on Wednesday proved a complete failure. The land, some six leagues on the banks of the river Arrecifes, is some of the finest in the country, and as the sale was ordered by Court it was thought that there would be many buyers. We understand, however, that there was not a single bidder present.

A Hamburg barque arrived in port on Wednesday with 40 of the finest German Negretti rams, which we suppose will be shortly offered by auction.

The Courts have decided the case of Dña. Isabel Agustini, a sort of quasi commercial failure and adjudged it as a slight case of fraud, condemning the fair bankrupt to 7 months imprisonment.

Yesterday we had occasion to visit a friend in the British Hospital, and it affords us sincere pleasure to testify to the very excellent and cleanly state of the establishment. It was our first visit to the Hospital, and we confess that we were greatly impressed at the order, regularity and neatness which pervaded the institution. The grounds are well kept, the dormitories healthy and airy, and the private rooms comfortable and well furnished—there was a sort of sanitary atmosphere about the building. Although personally unacquainted with Dr. Reid, the Resident Physician, we bear testimony to his very able management of the institution, and believe the British community is greatly indebted to him.

Mr. Oliden informs us that he ships per La Plata a large consignment of his preserved beef to Liverpool. This business seems to be rapidly on the increase. Mr. Laidlow, the renowned cured beef man, assures us that he cannot fill all the orders he has, and that the price which his beef fetches in Liverpool is almost double that which Wright & Kelso state in their last letter to Oliden.

An English gentleman who arrived yesterday from the Uruguay informs us that the camps about Paysandú are in splendid condition: no sales of land or sheep: at one of the English estancias two Englishmen narrowly escaped being gored to death during the marking; one gentleman was pursued by an infuriated 'novillo'—the chase was exciting.

The Alsina Bridge is now completely down from pillar to pillar, and all transit on the Ochoa road completely stopped: it is strange that not one of our colleagues has as yet mentioned this catastrophe. The bridge, we understand, was built by Mr. Von Arnim.

Mr. Hopkins meets with some opposition in Congress to the extension of his San Fernando concession; a very brisk discussion took place in the house on Thursday, and there are many members who side with Mr. King, the manager of the proposed Marine Railway, the plans of which were on exhibition on the Bolsa, but were removed to the Government House on Saturday. We should like to see this Marine Railway in working order, as we believe it would prove of the greatest convenience for the port of Buenos Ayres. Messrs. Hopkins and King ought to amalgamate.

The Leopoldina took up from Corrientes the other day 40 pieces of cau-

non brass-rifled, and also towed up a floating bombard vessel. In Corrientes there is a great stir—steamers going and coming every hour—on the beach the Brazilians have immense siege pieces strewn about; every one wonders that they are not sent up to the army. A whole Brazilian battalion has been cured and shipped up to the Bellaco. The hospitals are full, and a great number of small pox patients have lately been coming down from Itapiru. Mr. F. Mayol has launched his second chata, called the Tuyuti.

The Emperor of Brazil, it is said, will shortly be in the River Plate waters bound up for Corrientes, at least so writes Bustamante from Rio; we rather doubt, however, this, as the state of things in Rio is too critical to admit of His Majesty's absence.

The 'Nacion Argentina' published on Sunday an exact copy of our plan of the Paraguayan torpedoes; it seems a wood cut, very well done, and proves the activity of our colleague and the veracity of Sinbad.

Antar, the correspondent of the 'Nacion Argentina,' had arrived at Corrientes from the army, and they say he is en route for Buenos Ayres.

The National Government has not demanded of the Provincial Government any further contingent, notwithstanding the many rumors afloat.

The Boca Railway is now doing a splendid business. We hear that its present traffic gives 9 per cent. on the capital. The difficulties about crossing the Riachuelo seem to have been overcome, as we hear that the road will soon be pushed ahead to South Barracas.

Yesterday Mr. Peter Beare was down in Barracas; he is very busy with his new bridge over the Riachuelo: we have seen the plans and have no hesitation in saying that it will be an ornament to Buenos Ayres.

The enlistment in town continues actively: a batch of 150 Italians was sent off last week; another of 100 was to leave yesterday.

The debate in the Provincial Chambers on Wednesday night, on the subject of the sale of the Western Railway, was one of the grandest displays of oratory ever known in Buenos Ayres. The Ministers of the Provincial Government, Drs. Avellaneda and Varela, opposed the proposed reduction with a force of eloquence and close reasoning which many at first feared would carry the whole house with them, but Dr. Malaver and Sr. Cambaceres were yet to be heard; the replies of these gentlemen would do credit to any house of legislature. Dr. Malaver's speech met with unlooked for applause, and Sr. Cambaceres brought to bear on the question the experienced views of a thorough man of business, which were unanswerable; the result was that the reduction in the price proposed by the Committee was carried by a large majority, and the Government defeated. The price of the Western Railway, with its branches to Chivilcoy and Barracas, is now fixed at 3 millions of patacones.

Last week our advices from Montevideo show an undiminished call for peace, all the papers and in fact the whole Montevidean public irrespective of politics cry out for peace. Sr. Buschenthal's splendid mill on the hill behind his famed quinta is now ready to commence operations under the able management of Mr. Bell.

Mr. J. Boyd Thomson, manager of the Northern Railway, requests us in the most emphatic manner to contradict the statement in the English papers relative to Dr. Cullam's inspection.

The shareholders of the Central Argentine Railway are becoming clamorous in England about the delivery of the land conceded by the Argentine Government to the company; we are totally ignorant of the cause of the delay, and suppose that the matter rests with Congress. It is every way advisable that the question should be attended to with the least possible delay, as any reluctance on the part of Congress to comply, is calculated to injure not only the prospects of the company but the credit of the country abroad.

Our colleague the 'Nacion' has dates from Corrientes to the 16th, being one day later than our advices per Ibicuy. There has been nothing of importance since, the armies are in the same position. A young Entre Riano was shot down in the street in broad daylight by a Corrientino; the authorities are looking up the assassin who has escaped. Admiral Murature with the Argentine vessels is rendering the most effective aid at the Paso de la Patria towing chatas, &c.; the officers and crew are constantly at work, and as there is no coal they have to cut down forests of the Gran Chaco. The Brazilians have ordered 15,000 artillery cartouches to be manufactured. The horses have at last arrived and the Ar-

gentine and Brazilian forces are well mounted, but the keep of a horse in Paraguay is dearer than in Albions' or Malcom's stable-yard; Marshal Osorio pays £5 a month for the maintenance of each of his own horses. General Hornos before leaving for Buenos Ayres made the Marshal a present of a splendid charger, his Saino being completely done up. The navigation of the upper Parana is represented by some pilots who have come down as so extremely difficult that we fear Sinbad will never get to the Loreto. The pilots state that at some pass in the river they saw a body of about 4,000 Paraguayans with some cannons.

The latest novelty in city politics is an effort to drive the capital to a little town between San Nicolas and Rosario, called Las Piedras. It certainly is preferable to Frayle Muerto.

In Friday's 'Nacion Argentina' an article entitled, 'What to do to please everybody' appeared, which is attributed to the pen of Dr. Elizalde, our talented Minister of Foreign Affairs. We notice that the writer hints at one of the causes of the prolongation of the war that Entre Rios has failed to send its warriors, which is mainly owing to the debility of the National Government.

The English ball on Thursday evening was a great success. We publish an account of it in another column. We hear that another ball at the Coliseum is now on the 'tapis.'

The Parana newspaper states that General Flores wanted to return to Montevideo to take the helm of affairs, but that the Commander-in-Chief would not hear of this, and requested the vanguard commander to remain at his post, as a decisive battle would shortly take place, in which General Flores would have a prominent command.

The Paraguayans are probably not aware that on board of the Tamandaré there are no less than £800,000 in sovereigns, and owing to the position of the allied camp, neither Osorio nor Mitre think it prudent for the Brazilian paymaster to pay the troops, as owing to the numerous sutlers if the troops had their pay they might all get drunk.

Romero, the Paraguayan officer, it appears, has not passed over to the enemy. The name of the officer who escaped to the Paraguayan lines on the 15th, we hear is Martinez, who deserted to the enemy on the 23rd of May, gave notice to General Mitre of the intended attack on the 24th, and that the weight of the attack would be on the right. It turned out that the real attack took place on the left, which induces many to believe that this Paraguayan officer was nothing more nor less than a spy of the enemy's, who having gained the confidence of the allies, found out everything, and then made tracks. Romero, the Paraguayan, is still in the allied camp. He is now no longer a prisoner, but goes at large.

One of our colleagues states that there is a sort of revolution going on in Corrientes. Three or four towns have declared in favor of the revolutionists. The cause of this is not known, but it is surmised that it has been chiefly caused by the orders from headquarters to expropriate horses and horned cattle, the Correntinos not being sufficiently patriotic to give supplies to the allies without the 'quid pro quo.'

We have received by this packet the account of the last meeting of the shareholders of the Northern Railway; also Mr. Elborough's circular to the shareholders. This gentleman has at last resigned his post; and a loan at 12½ per cent. per annum is about to be raised on the property of the company. The affairs of the company seem to be in great confusion, and the shareholders are most anxious to have their accounts with the Government adjusted.

Yesterday we had further details about the Alsina bridge catastrophe. Half the bridge has come to grief, and it seems that at the time of the accident a rover was driving across a trood of 120 head of cattle, which were plunged into the river: the peon and most of the 'novillos' escaped. The state of the Barraca bridge is even worse than that of the Alsina bridge before the accident; and we verily believe some of these days, when a heavily laden bullock-cart is crossing a similar smash will take place. The neglected state of the bridges and roads in and about Buenos Ayres is a crying evil. The Calle Buen Orden hill is in a fearful state, and Sr. Herrera says that the \$3,000 m/c per month which hitherto was always allowed him by the Provincial Government has been stopped by order of the Minister, as the Government required this money to pay the interest guarantee to the Northern Railway shareholders.

BANKING CRISIS.

(Communicated)

The arrival of the English mail-steamers Arno, with news of the failures in London caused a crisis in Montevideo and Buenos Ayres which soon became a panic in the former city. The Banks were immediately run upon both by depositors and holders of paper-money demanding gold. For ten consecutive days they had to stand the brunt not only of the general public who crowded the bank-entrances panic-stricken, but also of the capitalists who also yielded to exaggerated fears and suddenly withdrew their deposits, thus adding notably to the general alarm.

The Montevidean Government, with a foresight worthy of all praise, notwithstanding what its enemies may say to the contrary, resolved to avert a crisis that threatened to involve the trade and commerce of the country in universal ruin and bankruptcy, and adopted the wise resolution of making the various bank-notes have forcible currency.

If the Montevidean Government had taken this step at the first alarm (as the Brazilian Government did, by stopping specie-payment at the Bank, with an emission three-times its capital, and authorizing it to emit 12 thousand Contos of reis, equal to 6 million\$), it would have rendered a signal service, and prevented the sad spectacle of a rival Banks buying up Mauá's notes in order to present a heavy amount of them for conversion; and when the Commercial Bank was presented with its own notes it had not gold enough to change them. Neither should we have seen the undisguised jealousy of other Banks sowing discordance and enmity against the Mauá Bank. In fine we should have been spared the actual prospect of doubt and danger for our commerce, of just reprisals, and all the uneasiness that at present surrounds our money-market.

The rival Banks, hostile to Mauá & Co., will spare no effort to create difficulties and obstacles by spreading alarming rumors about its credit and collecting large amounts of its notes to demand gold for them. The Bank-inspector in his report says that Mauá paid out 1½ million national dollars during the ten days run, and had still on hand 538,820\$, making in all the sum of \$2,038,820 in gold, to answer for an emission of 2,787,938\$. This Bank was, therefore, not only within the limit prescribed by law, but had actually a surplus of gold on hand. In all past crises, despite the everlasting jealousies which surrounded the Mauá Bank, none of its enemies can point to a single act on the part of any of its managers towards its colleagues that was not friendly and magnanimous.

A bank of such importance as Mauá's, compared with the rest, could at any time imperil the existence of any of the smaller institutions, as is most aptly shown by the 'Tribuna' of Montevideo in a recent article on this matter. The Mauá, with its many ramifications in Brazil and Europe, was the bank that had least to fear for its solidity, and it is seen that almost every packet brings heavy remittances for its vaults. It may be safely asserted that two thirds of the gold at present circulating in the River Plate came out of its vaults. Again, the report of the 'Inspector of Banks' shows that the Mauá is the only real bank of emission in Montevideo, since its currency alone is more than that of all the other banks collectively. This is a great proof of public confidence; and, moreover, its notes circulate through the whole Republic, while those of the other banks remain in the capital, not being taken in the country districts. All important transactions in cattle for the saladeros are effected in Mauá notes, and the contracts always specify that payment is to be made in the paper money of this establishment. The Mauá Bank in Banda Oriental may be said to hold the same important and pre-eminent position as the Banco de la Provincia of Buenos Ayres.

There is hardly an artisan or working-man's family that does not deposit their savings with Mauá, who avails himself of their industry to diffuse its fruits through the Oriental and Argentine Republics.

The Baron Mauá is the foremost financier and best friend of the River Plate, and Montevideo, in particular, owes him many benefits. When the Mauá Bank was founded there was no such thing as national credit, and the Public Debt was a chaos. Thanks to this institution the country now sees its debt in regular order, the coupons duly paid, and credit firmly established. There is not, meantime, a single enterprise of public utility in the Banda Oriental with which the name of Baron Mauá is not associated.

But, leaving aside the personal merits of Baron Mauá, whom the country

will one day come to appreciate, let me take up the question at issue.

When the Oriental Government issued the decree for forcible currency of the paper-money, why did the enemies of the Mauá Bank turn their rage against it as if it was itself author of the decree? Have they not the remedy in their hands? Why not pay their notes and call them in? If it be true that the other banks are opposed to the decree, why do they not call on the holders of their notes to bring them in and get gold for them at sight?

Why did not the head-manager of the River Plate Bank at the Bolsa meeting (25th inst.) accept the suggestion of Mr. Perez del Cerro, and declare the English Bank would not avail itself of the Government decree? Why did he limit himself to promise to guarantee its small emission, and not offer to pay the notes at sight?

It is notorious that the Montevidean Government shut its doors in the face of the Committee of Merchants who went to demand some modifications in the decree, and this was because of the intemperate language used by some of those gentlemen, respecting the Cabinet. It is a pity that the bellicose member of the Committee was not in London when the Government authorized the Bank of England to raise its paper-emission by five million pounds sterling; for, if he is so very bold in a foreign country, what would he not be in London?

While this occurred in Montevideo, the Mauá and River Plate Banks in Buenos Ayres applied to the Banco de la Provincia: the first asked for \$400,000, which was granted; the River Plate Bank asked for \$500,000 on bills with the Bank's endorsement, but only \$200,000 was given. No better proof than this can be adduced of the relative credit of two establishments in question. Meantime the Mauá Bank has not yet made use of its recoverable securities, nor of the numerous native merchants and capitalists.

On the 25th inst. there appeared in the newspapers of this city a notice from Messrs. Drabble, Getting and Mackinlay inviting merchants to a meeting at the Bolsa rooms; this notice bore no signature, but I knew that these gentlemen were the movers in the matter.

The object of the meeting as explained by Mr. Drabble could not be more absurd or ridiculous—it was proposed to send a committee to the Government of Montevideo requesting it to consider its decree, based on motives, which seemed as if to join in with the conspiracy against the Bank of Mauá in Montevideo, and causing as it were embarrassment to the commerce of a foreign market. When the Government of Montevideo issued this decree the motives that induced it should be respected, and a measure of such importance would not be adopted without due consideration—and if the Oriental Government has thought proper to shut the door on a committee of merchants from its own market, what do the promoters of the meeting of the 25th inst. expect, from a committee named by themselves and who go to a foreign market to ask of Government to reconsider resolutions which it believed absolutely necessary to adopt to save the whole commerce of the place. It is difficult to imagine anything more nonsensical or puerile from the commercial body of this market. The object of the meeting might be good enough without being ridiculous, but the result of which may be the continuance of the animosity and envy which, under the pretence of a public meeting and at a moment of general crisis, it is the ambition of many to carry on.

The mercantile meeting resulted in the most profound silence regarding the proposition of the committee; whilst on the other hand the commercial body of this market does not care to recognise as tutors any Englishmen, who, even if they have valuable interests in this country, are not the only persons who have equal interests at stake, nor do they admit their right to cite native merchants, who, like themselves, have also valuable interests in the country and in the market of Montevideo.

Finally, the Bank of Mauá, which has been made the object of all such attacks by its enemies in this crisis, has not inconvenienced a single one of its numerous debtors, and the managers have had the delicacy to abstain from commenting on, or defaming, the credit of any one, unlike the conduct pursued by others, both here and in Montevideo.

To this Bank we are indebted for our steam line in the Rivers Parana and Uruguay, the realization of the Northern Railway, and the "Primer Argentina," of Entre Rios.

The National Government can also say what assistance from the Mauá Bank it received when it was first organized and the national treasury was at zero, and what have the other banks and capitalists done?

MERCATOR.

MONTEVIDEO.

The arrival of Mr. Green from your city caused an unusual flutter in our commercial circles and we have been expecting another bomb-shell such as the meeting at the Buenos Ayres Bolsa, for the battle of the Banks is now the order of the day, on both sides of the river; but as yet Mr. Green has not made any new or striking 'denouement'. Everybody is talking of your Bolsa meeting, and we are on the tip-toe of expectation looking out for the 'indignation committee.' What steamer will they come by? Who are the gentlemen in question? Who pays travelling-expenses? These and sundry other questions are heard on all sides, and bets are freely given and taken up, as to whether the Government will receive them or not. The 'Siglo' comes down rather hard on the Finance-secretary for refusing to listen to Mr. Tomkinson and his friends; but it is likely your merchants will at least get a polite hearing, as the tenor of their resolutions at the Bolsa was moderate. I am told there was not much animation on the occasion. Most people are of the opinion I before ventured, that there is no hope of resuming specie-payments so long as the war lasts. The 'Siglo' publishes a communication in defence of Mauá, shewing the benefits derived from Banks of emission, and adding that those who first opposed this right to Mauá have since started emission-banks of their own.

There is a very bitter feeling in many quarters against Mauá, and some merchants talk of putting up a notice in their office that all payments must henceforward be in gold. It is a matter of universal surprise that Mr. Haydon does not accede to the request of depositing, at one of the Foreign Legations, securities for the Mauá emission, as it is well known that his bank has more than any others, viz. the Bonds of the Montevidean Debt, the title-deeds of immense estancias and the gas-works, &c. At present trade is almost at a stand-still: no sales, and an undefined feeling of doubt as to what the future has in store for us, or when we may hope to emerge from so unhappy a state of chrysalis. Exchange on England at 50 pence, which is equivalent to 48 in your city, leaving gold at a premium of 4 per cent. Drafts on Buenos Ayres at 1½ per cent. premium, payable here in gold.

Another alarm about Chilian privateers at the mouth of the river was circulated on Monday night by the captains of two Spanish schooners who had a pleasant gallop overland from Maldonado, where they left their vessels. They arrived at that port from Barcelona, with cargoes of wine, on the 16th inst., and on Friday last a large three-masted steamer, with two funnels, and carrying the English flag, came in and anchored: they suspect her to have been a Chilian corsair, but she cleared out again on Sunday, eastward. The 'Siglo' says another suspicious stranger came into same port soon after, but supposes she may be the steamer Henrietta bound for Valparaiso. On Tuesday morning the Spanish war-vessels Consuelo, Wad-ras, and Colon got up steam and left port to have a day's shooting at artillery practice, as they wish to keep their hand in. Meantime we are in daily expectation of Mendez Casto's fleet from the Pacific, as it seems the Spanish Minister has somehow received advices to this effect, and the story about sinking the Numancia and disabling the other vessels off Callao is only a Chilian illusion: coming round the Horn at this time of year will try their strength notably.

The Rio Grande papers of June 12th state that Gen. Canavarro has received orders from the War-office to proceed at once to Estero Bellaco, as Gen. Osorio is commissioned to try him by court-martial for charges of cowardice in allowing the Paraguayans to occupy San Borja, Itaguai and Uruguayana without making an effective stand. The transport Pedro II has brought down 5 physicians and a supply of war-material for the imperial army at Estero Bellaco.

The 'Opinion' says it is proposed to start a 'Mosquito' in this city. The 'Opinion' began life with a flourish of trumpets, but is now badly edited and worse printed: the proprietor however, promises to make a great improvement before long. The post-office returns for 1865 have appeared.

The Carmel has not yet come in; we expect her to-morrow, with anxiety.

The killing at the 9 saladeros for the fortnight ending 12th inst. was 27,303,

of which about one half was by Duplessis and Pinneyrua.

The French packet has brought 150,000\$ in gold for the Mauá Bank: this bank is the great medium of flooding the River Plate with specie, and I enclose an extract, statistical table, shewing that its imports of gold since January 1863 amount to nearly 11 million hard dollars. The news by the Carmel is generally considered assuring as regards Europe, the chances of a peaceful solution being strengthened by Napoleon's proposed Congress. From Rio Janeiro, however, we learn that things are getting worse; the mil-ree has declined from 26 pence to 17½d., a tremendous sign of the times; the Government can hardly stand, and the effects of the war are beginning to tell upon Brazil.

Strange items of war-news are revealed from time to time by Mephistopheles who writes from your city. Baron Port Alegre seems a 'will o' the wisp,' he has been so long coming and never arrives: last September he was on full march on the Salto de Guayrá with 10,000 men, and now he is said to be near Tranquera de Loreto with 9,000 but I am beginning to doubt if he be at all near the seat of war. The story about Captain Lapride is very droll: all the army correspondents said he came out 'special' from the Emperor Napoleon, but he is well-known here as an expert bird-stuffer: he fought under General Lavalle for some years, as captain of a volunteer corps, and went home to France not long since, having just now returned, without any mission other than private curiosity to watch the events of the war.

It is advisable to take precautions against the introduction of Cholera from Liverpool, and I observe the authorities at Rio are already on the alert, having put in quarantine the S.S. Halley from that port. Our friends in Rio have now a very strange visitor, in the person of the Ismir, a Turkish man-of-war en route for India: it is the first time the flag of the Crescent has been seen in South American waters. Arthur Napoleon the pianist came out by French packet to Rio and may be again expected to visit the River Plate. Baron Souza, new Portuguese Minister, as also arrived in Brazil.

The 'Tribuna' of this city has revived the subject of the Durazno Railway, of unhappy memory: Mr. S. Rodriguez publishes a letter from Mr. Emerson Dawson of Westminster, dated August 30th 1865, in which the gentleman declared his intention to begin the works at once: he failed, however to deposit the guarantee of £10,000, and the term although prolonged by Government was again suffered to expire. No doubt the wars in these countries frightened Mr. Dawson and his friends. The talk of raising a Company in Montevideo is all moonshine; the necessary capital would be over on, million sterling!

It is rumored that Count Barbolani has sent in reclamations to the Government about some Italian sailors who got roughly treated in a scrimmage last Sunday with the serenos and artillery-men. The police-reports mention a shocking murder committed by a cart-driver, named Savani, on the person of another named Agustin Lema: the corpse of the latter was claimed by his unhappy family, the criminal being seized with the bloody knife in his hand: both parties were Spaniards, and Lema was only 26 years of age.

A gentleman named Isola solicits a patent for destroying ants. The Bouffes continue their performances: one of the Co. got inadvertently stabbed, last week, for treading on some one's corns. Mme. Velazco gave a ball on Monday night.

PASSENGERS ARRIVED, PER S.S. LA PLATA.

First Class—Maurice Studdert, Wm Studdert, Thomas Studdert, Fanny Studdert, Gertrude Studdert, Albert A Langdale, Harry J Langdale, Edw A Earl, Thomas Claven, Edeline Hirbes [child.] Second Class—Jonas Studdert, Mary Mason, Marion Haldane, Jabez Fletcher, Margaret Grace, Anne Hart, William Miller, James Bowie, Jean B Eyanstier, Felice Eyanstier, A Cruis, Jules Cruis, Henry Charles Litchfield, Paris Brooke Anderson. Third Class—Janet Kay, Margaret Liddell, Thomas Clark, Stephen Clark, Alexander Brydon, Mary Newton, Mary Newton [infant], Margaret Clavin, Catherine Clavin [child], Laurence Clavin [infant], Thomas Naughton, Michael Keegan, Daniel Kelly, John Kelly, George Lawler, Thomas Falleu, Pat. Dooling, Catherine Dooling, Pat. Dooling [infant], John Byle, Michael Sheehy, Margaret Brennan, Margaret Hirbes, William Barry, John Cullen, Fredk Bearch, Mary Mahony.

MESSRS. PETO AND BETTS.

According to the circular announcing the temporary suspension of Peto and Betts, their liabilities are about £4,000,000, of which all but about £200,000 consisting of acceptances and accounts for current supplies, are stated to be amply secured.

I remember hearing Sir Morton state that he and his partners were carrying out contracts to the amount of twelve millions sterling at the time he spoke; and it is said that when they stopped yesterday there were 20,000 men in their employment.

THE FREIGHT QUESTION.

To the Editors of the 'Standard' Gentlemen, Having read in your valuable paper this morning the circular sent out by certain merchants and consignees of vessels in this port to the captains of the said vessels, I would beg your attention to the following reply, sent in by me—

Sir—I received your letter of the 22d inst., and beg in reply to state that I have not the power to instruct you in the matter you refer to, that power is solely vested in the chartering of the ship by charter party. All that I can do in the matter is to suggest that you do not in any way compromise the claims of my owner for what he may have to claim of the charterers of the vessel for non-fulfilment of charter party.

I also beg to call your attention to the fact that if you, as the agent of the charterers of the vessel, intend to put the charter party to one side, I am not aware of anything mentioned in the bills of lading stating you to be the consignees of the vessel, and if the power had rested in me that you wish me now to assume, my vessel would have been discharged long since, instead of being unnecessarily hampered with your goods until the money market has fallen so low as it is at present.

I beg to call your attention to the case of the Whitehaven Lass. The captain of this vessel detained goods on board for some time, and had heavy damages to pay in this port. If you, as a merchant, keep your goods on board my vessel, and hamper the same, in justice I ask you to allow me the same law for both sides. For about three weeks my vessel was lumbered up with the same.

All I would advise you to do for my employer is, that if you have made any claims on his behalf, I hope it is in accordance with charter party, and not to make any other against the spirit of said charter, not to involve him in any law suit without his consent. I would strongly recommend to all captains to have the clauses inserted in charter, the captain to employ lighters; goods landed at merchants' risk and expense.

the account is settled against him two months since, he has to submit to a reduction of upwards of £20, before he can get his money, besides two months' interest his owner loses. All this is very fine to mulct the parser of the ship out of, but I hope, Sir, that you will give both sides publicity, and let the public at large see where the injustice lays.

The shipowners in England are not so blind as to submit to a few of the trading community of this port plundering them out of what they agree for in chartering their vessels; and even captains need not fear the result, that strict justice is to be had in England as well as here. We beg to compliment the authorities of Buenos Ayres for the ample justice they gave in the case of the Italian vessel and crew, decided in your law courts the other day. Hoping, Gentlemen, you will do me the favor of publishing this, I remain,

Yours respectfully, A SHIPMASTER.

WAR SYMPTOMS IN ITALY.

The evacuation by the Austrians of the Mantuan districts lying on the right bank of the Po [the *distretti d'Oltrepò*] has given rise to much comment, it being at first imagined that this movement was a feint made in the hope of alluring the Italians to take possession of these districts, an act which would have instantly constituted them the aggressors. The Austrians have, however, since returned to their former position, their temporary retirement having been caused by the fear that in the present swollen state of the river—a consequence probably of the opening of the dykes to fill the triple line of moats round the fortress of Mantua—their bridge might be carried away, and themselves cut off from communication with the opposite bank. Whether their apprehensions proved groundless, or whether due precautions have since been taken against such an accident, the fact is, as I have said, that they are reinstated in their old quarters.

The decree establishing a forced paper currency is already bringing grist to certain speculative mills, a considerable profit having been made by taking money orders in Florence for large amounts, payable in France and in other countries with which this facility exists. The orders are paid in notes of the National Bank, and cashed in Paris, or elsewhere, by the confederates in whose favour they are drawn. There appears to be no remedy for this state of things, which is a natural consequence of the situation, even when the orders are taken in good faith and without any intention of taking a dishonest advantage of circumstances; in fact, without any advantage at all to the public, except that which results from the legal facility of passing the notes of the bank at their nominal value in all transactions with the Government.

The enthusiasm for the war is unabated, and few put any faith in the attempts, now fully announced, of diplomacy to preserve peace. Committees of ladies have been formed for the collection of linen, the preparation of lint, and of bandages for the wounded. Patriotic offers are being made in every part of the country, both on the part of public bodies and of private individuals. The merchants of Milan keep an open table for the soldiers as they pass through the city. Following the example of Duke Litta, the Marquis Busca has undertaken to maintain the families of all the labourers on his estates who may be called to military service in the army or in the National Guard. In Milan 3,616 volunteers have already inscribed their names. Among such brilliant examples of active devotion to the cause of the nation, a certain Comendatore Bima, director of the Sanitary Department of the Military Administration at Naples, has found no better mode of serving his country than that of cutting his throat, because he had not been appointed on the medical staff at one of the stations in Northern Italy—at least, so say the newspapers.

AMERICAN MAGAZINES.

Harper's monthly and Godey's Ladies-book have just come to hand, and contain as usual a variety of light and instructive reading. Harper opens with a description of Blackwell's lunatic-asylum, New-York, by one of its former patients. The biography of Charles Ellet, inventor of the steam-ram vessels, gives the history of the fleet of steam-rams which came into play after the destruction of the Merrimack. Mr. Ellet had first offered his invention to the Russians during the Crimean war, but without success. Red-jacket is a sketch of the famous Indian chief of that name. There are some pretty lines to the 'Unreturning bra-

ves,' which forcibly recal the fate of many poor fellows recently fallen at Estero Bellaco. A paper on 'Diamonds and other gems' contains much valuable information about all kinds of precious stones from the Koh-i-noor downwards. 'Christmas guests and the holidays' is worth reading. The illustrations are beautifully executed.

Godey's book is becoming very popular with English ladies in Buenos Ayres, and its great cheapness is combined with excellent value in the way of fashion-plates, engravings on wood and steel, short stories, pieces of music, verses, &c. Our space will not allow us to give a detailed review, but we would call special attention to the handsome engravings 'the last bouquet,' 'drifting with the tide,' 'the crossing sweeper,' 'knuckle down,' &c. The quantity of patterns for ladies dress is an endless variety.

Mr. Brill, 196 calle Reconquista, regularly receives these periodicals from New-York.

VILLA LUXAN.

Villa de Lujan, June 28, 1866.

Gentlemen, On the 26th inst., in the Pilar, Nicholas Eppersen, a Dane, of the Lutheran religion, aged 50 years, and Henry George Chase, an Englishman, a member of the Episcopal Church of England, aged 35 years, were received by the undersigned into the Catholic Church, his lordship the Justice of the Peace of Pilar, Don Pedro José Carion, acted as godfather for the Dane, and Don Juan Angel Monsalvo, a member of the Municipal body, was godfather of the Englishman.

TOMAS CAROLAN, Irish Chaplain.

ON 'CHANGE.

Table with exchange rates for June 27th, 1866. Includes Paper price of ounces, Do. Sovereigns, First price of patacons, Last do, and Cash sales.

Prices fell again to-day. Specie ruled weaker to-day than for the last week, and the chief cause of this seems to be the forcing of bills for paper money with the very best signatures on the market at very high rates of discount. Nobody seems willing to hold paper for three months, whilst promissory notes in gold can be discounted at 1/2 and 3/4 per cent. per month. Brokers now say that it is not so much that paper has got scarcer as that gold has become abundant, which affects the market; and notwithstanding that the market is small, and nearly all large transactions are known on 'Change, still there cannot be found two merchants or brokers to agree as to the amount of specie in Buenos Ayres. Many persons who are intimately connected with the market, say twenty-three millions of patacons in the River Plate; but we, for our part, regard this as an exaggerated estimate, although it is an admitted fact that the Brazilians have already spent in the war one hundred and fifty millions; and if any attention is to be paid to the Rio paper a no inconsiderable part of this, say ten millions, has at least come to the River Plate. The total currency in circulation is hardly sufficient to pay for ten millions, the surplus of gold over paper, if the foregoing estimate is anything at all correct, is so enormous, that not even the strongest capitalist can control the market.

Table with exchange rates for June 28th, 1866. Includes Paper price of ounces, Do. Sovereigns, First price of patacons, Second, Last, and Cash sales.

Specie ruled slightly firmer to-day, owing chiefly to the rumors of increased applications at the bank for gold and the accumulation of paper money. It was said on 'Change to-day that the Provincial Bank holds in its vaults twenty millions currency, and about one million and a quarter in gold. Owing to the closing of the supplemental mail, there were not many merchants on 'Change. 'Mercator's' article on the banking crisis was greatly discussed, and most people seemed to think that it was too strong. The news by the French packet is anxiously looked for by all, as there is an obvious apprehension that it will bring us unfavorable monetary intelligence.

The Guarani was looked for to-day with later dates from the war, but she did not make her appearance. The state of things up at head quarters is now regarded as chronic. Steamers come and go without any news of importance; and the impression amongst the brokers and merchants is, that until winter is over nothing of any importance will occur. The purchases for the army are gradually falling off, and on a much less extensive scale than formerly.

From Montevideo there is nothing of great importance: two vessels with railway iron for Mr. Wheelwright, and heavy coal arrivals, but no sales. Exchange is doing at 30d., payable in bank notes, equal to 48c. here: gold, 4 per cent. premium.

The time sales of specie were very limited to-day.

Table with time sales of specie for Saturday, July 31, and July 14.

In National Bonds no sales whatever, and for the last few days there has been a great lull in these securities. Holders, we hear, have still some hope of getting some justice from Congress, some very tempting offer of 1/2 per cent. for war expenses being tendered, on the passage of Art. 28.

Mr. Sharples, the agent for the Bienhechora del Plata, has just returned from the camp, having collected subscriptions to the amount of 60,000 patacons for the Company, the affairs of which are in the most prosperous condition, owing to the activity of its agents and the able management of F. Moreno, Esq.

Respecting the freight question, an opinion from one of the most eminent lawyers in the city has been sent us, which distinctly states whenever no mention is made in the bill of lading, or on the back by endorsement, respecting the rate of exchange, the captain is entitled to 4:90; in all other cases he must take the current rate of exchange.

Gold was in greater demand to-day. Discounts 1 to 1 1/2; paper, 1 1/2 per month.

Table with gold and paper prices for June 30, 1866. Includes Paper price of ounces, Do. Sovereigns, First price of patacons, Last, and Cash sales.

This was an exciting day on 'Change; the news by the packet, the news from the war, advices from Montevideo, and the winding up of accounts of the month, all tended to keep the brokers busy; in the morning gold was held up very firm but in the afternoon it gave way and prices fell ten centissimos. The advices by the French packet are not of a character to inspire confidence, the numerous failures, and the rather gloomy news about tallow, are calculated to increase the general distrust; respecting hides and wool, the home markets are dull and a fall in prices is anticipated. There are telegrams in town from London to the 29th: tallow, according to our latest advices, ruled at 42s, although it was said on 'Change that the last price was 40s, and we are assured on good authority that there are telegrams in town announcing the failure of the consolidated Bank of London, which had only a few days previously taken the whole business of the Bank of London. It is pleasing amidst such financial gloom to observe that the shares of the London & River Plate Bank (limited) had risen two pounds per share: last quotations, £10 to £12 premium.

Advices have been received from Lisbon of the arrival of the Rhone at that port on the 27th May, after a splendid voyage of 18 days from Rio. Mr. Thompson and others all on board well. The Guarani brings no news of importance from headquarters. Minister Octaviano had not yet arrived. Capt. Hunter spoke the Portaña with the Minister on board in front of Empedrado. The time sales of specie were small.

Table with time sales of specie for Wednesday, Saturday, July 31, and July.

Mr. Rossi has placed the French barque Marie Marguerite, to load for Marseilles, current rates. Messrs. J. P. Boyd and Co. have chartered the following vessels:— British barque Aletheia, to load bones and bone-ash here and in Montevideo, at 26s. for orders.

British barque William Harper to load bones and bone-ash, in port, at 25s., for orders. Dutch brig valid to load for Parana, at 3 1/2 pats per ton. Mr. J. A. Fernandes has opened his barraca at his own premises in Barracas, known as 12 de Julio. He is the oldest established barraqueiro in that neighbourhood.

The failure of Sr. Botet, barraqueiro, Barracas was spoken on 'Change. Liabilities not stated. The Oriental arrived this morning with 159 passengers. She is praised greatly by the English gentlemen who came in her as the best boat in the river. Discounts—Gold 1. Paper money much easier, rate 1 1/2 per cent. Exchange for the packet it is thought will open low.

The Committee from Buenos Ayres has been received, but it will amount to nothing. Exchange for the packet, £15,000 drawn. Mauá Bank drew £6,000, River Plate Bank drew £10,000, and this bank drew at a favorable rate for its customers. Gold at 5 and 6 1/2 premium. £17,000 in sovereigns shipped to Rio.

The news from England shows the total amount of failures up to May 23rd to have been over 30 million pounds sterling, comprising the following firms and joint-stock Companies:— Messrs. James Baines & Co., ship-owners, Liverpool. Robinson, Carryton & Co., private bankers Manchester.

- List of firms and companies including Fernie, Brothers & Co., Liverpool; Penny & Co., Wakefield, Nash & Co., Butterworth & Co., Rochdale; E. Indian Commercial Banking Co., London; Overend, Gurney & Co.; The Bank of London, [not of England]; The Consolidated Bank; English Joint-Stock Bank; European Bank; Imp. Mercantile Credit Association; N. Zealand Banking Co.; Oriental Commercial Bank; Messrs. Peto & Betts; Messrs. Luckie Brothers; Messrs. Getting, Hankey & Sewall army-agents; Hallett, Ommany & Co., naval-agents. (LATEST TELEGRAM.) London, 29th—Consols, 35/12. Paris, 29th—The 3 per Cent. Funds, 64.10. Do. 4 1/2 do., 92.75. Tallow—42. Madrid, 29th—Os consolidados Español, 32.20.

Table with exchange rates for July 2nd, 1866. Includes Paper price of ounces, Do. Sovereigns, First price of patacons, Second, and Cash sales.

Specie fell sensibly to-day owing it is presumed to the payment of the interest on the National Bonds by Government; in the liquidation room sales were made as low as 25 6s. The specie market could hardly be weaker, notwithstanding the very prevalent rumor that very heavy remittances in gold are about to be made to Rio Janeiro by all the Brazilian houses in town.

There was some news on the Bolsa from headquarters, but how it came we could not discover. The Governor of Corrientes has resigned, and his name Minister also.

An American gentleman has a letter from Rio to the effect that the Emperor of Brazil is about to leave for the River Plate, and that if he comes he will engage all the steamers in Rio and bring 20,000 men along with him; what importance to attach to this news it is difficult to say, but the state of things in Rio is such that a speedy conclusion of the war is absolutely necessary, and if the Emperor can leave it is more than probable he will and take with him all available troops in Rio and other ports. Gold is represented so scarce that it cannot be obtained at any price. The Spanish Minister offered to buy an American steamer lying in Rio in \$1,150,000 paper, but as the owner, although he offered \$1,100,000 to obtain the gold, could not get it, the sale fell through.

It was said on 'Change to-day that the Paraguayan agent in New York had engaged a certain party who has arrived and left for Corrientes and Paraguay: this party is the patentee of

the most noted torpedo known in the United States. We mention the matter as we heard it, without guaranteeing it in the least.

Table with time sales of specie for Thursday, Saturday, July 31, Aug. 31, Dc., and Sept. & Oct.

In National Bonds no sales. The Government commenced paying the interest to-day on the bonds, nothing could be more punctual than the payment of the interest and amortisation on these bonds. The Minister deserves the very highest praise for this; it is probably the first Republican Administration in South America that has shown that notwithstanding the waging of an expensive war, the creditors of the nation are as secure of their rental as in times of peace. No matter what the national credit may be abroad, we are happy to say that at home it stands good, and the National Bonds are to-day a favorite security for loans and investments.

Messrs. Hughes and Peters took possession to-day of the Llavallol barraca, one of the finest barraca establishments in the country. It affords as much pleasure to recommend this barraca to all up river wool growers as a safe and commodious establishment for the consignment of wools and other produce.

Messrs. Lanuz and Co. have chartered the steamer Guarani for Corrientes. She leaves on Thursday, and takes passengers. We are happy to say that the steamer Iron King, which foundered some months ago in front of Itapiru has been got afloat.

Messrs. Clansen and Co. have opened a wholesale Havannah cigar depot at Sr. Pacheco's house in Calle San Martin, one of the finest establishments in town.

Coal—A cargo sold to-day, 320 tons, at 16 patacons.

Messrs. H. A. Green and Co. have chartered the Dutch brig Veendam, to load in Uruguay for Antwerp, salted hides, 45s. and 5 per cent.

Messrs. Sagory and Lennyeux have chartered the French barque Moshesh, to load bales for Marseilles at 45 francs.

Also, the French barque Troi Soeur, to load for Bordeaux, bales and tallow, 30 francs.

EXPORTS—To-day, The Oldenburg schooner Lucie for Cork, Ireland by J. M. Bieber & Co.

Solanet 150 dry hides, 509 bales wool, 8 bales horse hair.

Per British ship Nazarene for Queenstown (Ireland) by J. P. Boyd and Co.

T. B. Hall, 417 tons bone and bone-ash.

July 3rd, 1866.

Table with exchange rates for July 3rd, 1866. Includes Paper price of ounces, Do. Sovereigns, First price of patacons, Second, Last, and Cash sales.

The decline in gold still continues; money, both paper and specie, was felt much easier, and the paper money on hand in the Provincial Bank it is said, amounts to twenty-five millions. The chief topic on 'Change to-day was the nomination of the new President of the Provincial Bank, Señor Esnaola, who is by birth a Porteño; he was born in the Calle Mayo in the year 1806, is a bachelor, and one of the wealthiest native capitalists in the city: he is known to the public as one of the largest mortgagors in Buenos Ayres, has never figured in politics, but has been a noted discounter. In the year 1863 he was clothed with the judicial emblems of the Juzgado of the Cathedral del Norte, and during his year of office the parish was orderly and quiet. Mr. Esnaola is erroneously supposed by many to be a Spaniard by birth; he has lived in comparative retirement, and although immensely wealthy, keeps no coach: the splendid site at the corner of Mayo and the plaza is his property—one of the finest in the city. Upon the whole, he has been favorably received as the new President, and is said by the brokers to be the best judge of city paper in Buenos Ayres.

Sor. Estrada, who retires, has passed through a stormy period, but he carried the Bank successfully through all, and the public of Buenos Ayres is under great obligations to this distinguished gentleman for his services. Gold rules very weak, and the remittances per libicuy from Corrientes are said to be heavy.

Table with time sales of specie for Saturday, July 31, and Dec. 31.

In National Bonds some small sales at reserved rates. Exchange for the packet has opened at 49 1/2, at which rate some bills were passed.

Messrs. Tay & Upton have chartered the following vessels:—British brig Estelle to load in Uruguay for orders bones and bone-ash, 32s 6d. and 5 per cent.

Placed on the berth to load for New York, British barque Adelaide Pendergast, at current rates, Discount gold 1 per cent. paper 1 1/2 per cent.

BIRTH.

On the 13th May at No. 306, Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow, the wife of James H. Paul, Esq., of B. Ayres, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

On the 2nd inst., in this city, by the Rev. Father Cavanagh, Mr. John Taylor to Miss Elizabeth Colton.

June 12th, at the Merced Church, in this city, by the Very Rev. A. Fahy, Ino J. F. Murphy, late of Dublin, to Miss Rosanna Kinsella, of the same place.

DEATHS.

On the 30th June, at his residence in Calle Mayo, Mr. John Alexander, aged 40 years, a native of Staffordshire, England.

On the 20th June, in the Partido de Lujan, Peter Martagh, aged 60 years. Deceased was a native of Westmeath, Ireland, and had come to this country only two months ago.

On the 25th of June, at his residence in Ranchos, after a short illness, Dr. Hugh Thomas Sheridan, aged 54 years, deeply regretted by a wide circle of friends. Deceased as a professional man was arduously attentive in his duties to the sick, and in private life affable and courteous to all.

On the 29th of June, at the residence of his daughter, 216 Estados Unidos, after a lingering illness, Mr. John Greig. Deceased was a native of Brechin, Scotland; many years resident in this country.

At Concordia, Entre-Rios, on Sunday 24th inst. Mr. Joseph Hardy, mechanical engineer, aged 34 years, much regretted by a large circle of friends. Deceased was a native of Annak, Northumberland, England, and had resided here over 20