





TEATRO COLON

OPERA ITALIANA. Gran Funcion Extraordinaria. Viernes 19 de Octubre. A Beneficio de M. CELESTINO. Un Ballo in Maschera. En un intermedio se ejecutara el gran preludio y marcha en la Opera LAFRICANA, Del Maestro Meyerbeer. A las 8.

Teatro Franco-Argentino

BOUFFES PARISIENS. Jeudi 18 Octobre 1866. Représentation Extraordinaire. Benefice de M. LEON. Première représentation de Le Mariage au Tambour. Comédie en 3 actes. EDWARD ET SA BONNE. Comédie en 1 acte.

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TO CORRESPONDENTS. No notice can be taken of anonymous communications. What is inserted must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer; not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

The Standard.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 19, 1866.

THE RIVER PLATE CABLE.

PUNTA LARA TELEGRAM. Colonia. Thursday, Oct. 18, 9 A.M. Finished landing surplus cable. Mr. Oldham and staff leave this morning per Veloz for Buenos Ayres. Cable works most satisfactorily. Middle of next week, Punta Lara and Montevideo will be connected. This telegram was received at the Standard office at 4 P.M., Thursday.

CONSULAR PROTECTIONS.

The levy about town seems to have at last commenced in real earnest, and we learn that since Sunday night over one thousand parties have been taken up, many of whom have since been discharged, but many also shipped on board. In times like the present, it is not to be expected that we can escape the inconveniences of the press-gang; and since it is so easy to avoid the annoyance of arrest, we think it our duty to advise all our readers to at once secure a consular protection.

Although the object of the Government in sending picquets through the streets, is only to compel those who are obliged to serve to enrol themselves, still, as the agents of the authorities are some of the roughest members of our community, many and serious abuses are perpetrated. Passengers just landed, and foreigners who cannot speak one word of Spanish, and therefore cannot by any possibility be mistaken for natives, are of all others the most liable to apprehension; and the plea for this, that as numerous foreigners have taken the bounty and deserted, all foreigners must be prepared to show their consular certificates when asked.

As yet the levy has not by any means assumed the dimensions which we apprehend, and when Gelly y Obes arrives, the real levy begins; in the meantime it is well to be on guard, and all should carry about their person the consular certificate of their nationality. At night time, foreigners should be particularly careful, as it is the time when most arrests are made; the picquets frequently enter the cafés, and walk off with every one on the premises, and we should not be surprised to hear that some of these nights they made a pounce on the French Theatre. We advise all our readers to evade the streets as much as possible while this levy is going on, as not unfrequently terrible fights occur in consequence of the sweeping search for 'papeletas.'

Last night the arrests were more numerous than ever, and several highly respectable parties were marched off to the barracks, where, if the officer be not there, they have to pass the night; every one should therefore at once secure a consular certificate.

THE CRICKET CONCERT.

The concert on Wednesday night at the Coliseum in aid of the Cricket Club was a great success. There were 400 ladies and gentlemen present, including several distinguished visitors—Hon. Mr. Matthew, new English Minister, Major General Asboth, the new American Minister, Hon. Mr. and Mrs. Washburn, Capt. Pierce Crosby, U.S.S. Shamokin, Capt. H.M. Gunboat Doterel, Dr. Bishop do., &c. &c. A correspondent has favored us with a report of the concert: we will therefore merely remark that the piece most applauded was the duet between Miss Heath and Mr. Miles. Mr. Phillips as usual convulsed his auditors with laughter in the Killenny Asizes, but it was remarked that his impersonation of the nigger is much better than that of poor Paddy; his performance on the bones and banjo could not be excelled. The performance concluded at 11 o'clock.

There was a ball afterwards, but the gentlemen far outnumbered the ladies; dancing was kept up till the small hours.

EDITOR'S TABLE.

Minister Octaviano is expected in town this morning; he will stop in Buenos Ayres a few days before going up to Corrientes. All the transport steamers in Montevideo have been despatched at once to Brazil to bring down more recruits. The number of steamers we have not heard exactly, but it exceeds a baker's dozen. The steamers Eponina and Julio take up to Corrientes 600 Brazilian recruits just arrived at Montevideo. Yesterday it was currently rumored through town that peace has been made. On what authority this story is circulated, we are at a loss to say, but as it is the general wish of the people of Buenos Ayres almost every one believes it, and immense wagers in hats were made yesterday.

His Excellency the British Minister, George Buckley Mathew, Esq., C.B., attended by the Secretary of Legation and two Chaplains, the Rev. Mr. Ford, English Church, and the Rev. Mr. Smith, Scotch Church, was yesterday formally received by the Vice-President of the Argentine Republic, Dr. Don Marcos Paz. A band of music played on the occasion in front of the Government House, and the Vice-President's coach had four horses. The address and response we hope to be able to get in time to translate and publish for to-morrow's issue.

Mr. Robinson, engineer of the mole at Laguna de los Padres, has arrived in town, and informs us the works are temporarily suspended; that of the work are finished, and but for difficulties which have arisen might be finished in two months more. The structure is of iron. We learn there is a great demand for tickets for the opera to-night at Col. M. Celestino is a general favorite with our foreign residents, and the Ballo en Maschera is his best role. We hope he will have a good benefit-night.

An extraordinary accident occurred to the despatch sent through the Cable last Monday for Gov. Alsina and Vice-president Paz: Mr. Smith at Punta Lara had no letter-paper to copy out the despatch, and knew not how to communicate it to their Excellencies, being unable himself to come to town. The astronomical steamer Humboldt has arrived at Montevideo; we notice in the passenger list Mr. Nicolas Lowe, Mr. George Tidblom, and some others who are well known in the River Plate.

The much talked-of cricket match comes off to-day. We hear great things about this game. Mr. Simpson, the president of the club, leaves in the packet for England, and it is a farewell game played in honor of the favored batter. We understand that several picnic parties leave by first train for Palermo. Mr. Watson's race is the great talk of the day: six donkeys are already in training for this extraordinary race, and as many more, we understand, will be entered. Mr. Lafente leaves for Cordova, and from thence proceeds to the other provinces. There is great enquiry as to the real nature of 'Aniar's' mission, but it is pretty generally believed that it has no other object than to insist on the Provincial Government at once making a levy, and sending respectable contingents to the war. The journey, in the present hot weather, which Mr. Lafente has before him, is anything but agreeable, and he had better take a good supply of Liebig's Extractum Carnis, as we have it from an English gentleman just arrived from San Juan that the starvation on the road passes all description; in fact only a Bernard Kavanagh could subsist on the diet given at the post-houses. Dr. Costa, the Minister, who has left for headquarters, does not purpose returning immediately to B. Ayres, but will get out at Rosario and then start for the interior. If these gentlemen would only supply us with a note of their hardships, they would assist us in our efforts to make the Provincial Government look after these matters.—Mr. Burgess, the Australian traveller, complained bitterly of the outrageous charges and scandalous treatment he received at the Cordoves post-houses: although the matter caused much noise at the time, no reform has been introduced. Now, we should like to know of what earthly use these Provincial Governments are, if they cannot at least take care of the post-houses on the road? We say nothing about the Indians, although both Antar and the Minister of Education run imminent risk. The Spanish debt, respecting which there has been such great speculation going on for some time, it appears will at last be recognized.—Don Domingo Oro, the survivor of the Mendoza earthquake, and who lay for several hours beneath the ruins, has been named Government inspector of the claims, which have had almost as miraculous a resurrection as the inspector himself.

We hear that a Brazilian transport laden with wounded, lies hopelessly aground in the Parana: we think that the Brazilian minister here ought to at once send a steamer to her assistance, as the weather is warm, and it is really monstrous to allow these unfortunates to be roasted alive on the mud-bank.

La Union Americana is the name of a new opposition paper: it rises from the ashes of the defunct Estafeta. We have not as yet seen any number of this new organ, but understand that the editorial staff is very strong. We regret to hear of another shipwreck on the English Bank, outside of Montevideo—the Isabella, a British brig. We hope to see the new English Minister take the Lobos light question in hand, as it really is a great abuse, and causes immense loss to British underwriters. Col. Mundell, the popular gefe of Paysandu, is at present in Montevideo, on a visit to Gen. Flores. We hope the Colonel will use his influence to get some of the assassins in prison at Montevideo brought to justice at once. Special orders have been sent from Rio Janeiro to Admiral Tamandare to blow up the iron-clad Rio Janeiro, so as to render it impossible for the Paraguayans when the war concludes to elevate her, and use her against her former owners. Mr. Beaumont, the attaché of the French Legation, has crossed the allied lines, and been well received by Lopez, who placed a steamer at his disposal to convey him to Asuncion. The scarcity of horses in the Banda Oriental is now so acutely felt that in the last trip of the Tacuarembó diligence, the mayoral had to yoke in some 'potros,' to the no small astonishment of the passengers, many of whom, fearing that the coach would be upset, got out and walked; it is a strange fact, however, that nothing happened to it—the wild horses kicked a little at first, but after galloping for a league they were completely tamed in. Even on the estancias we hear great complaints about the scarcity of horses. Paysandu is now going a-head so fast that Mr. Wells, an auctioneer of Montevideo, is about to start a branch auctioneering depot there. Mr. Gonies de Oliveira, the Buenos Ayres manager of the new Italian Bank, has arrived. We salute this gentleman, and welcome him to the River Plate. His bank will commence operations on the 2nd January, 1867; we have no doubt it will do a splendid business.

In the South Wool Plazas this year there will be great rivalry amongst the brokers: we notice several new brokers and even barragueros. The best brokers are those who get the best price, and we shall duly advise our country friends of the doings in both plazas each day. The prospects of wool this year are very unfavorable for our friends the farmers; the very rapid decline in gold causes immense loss to the poor sheepfarmers. The new bridge for the Riachuelo at Barraacas is now being landed, and we believe will shortly be put up; the old bridge is in a most miserable state; the holes are fitted up, but the main posts are so rotten that even the bullock cartmen cross it with fear. The shipment of horses from Rosario for the Brazilian army has given rise to all sorts of rumors in that town; the horses, it appears, will not be landed in Paraguay, but in front of the encampment of Curuzú, in the Gran Chaco. The state of the Brazilian Hospital at the foot of Calle Bolívar is so crowded, that there are serious fears in the hot weather the place will suffer from some fearful epidemic; it were desirable that the crowds of convalescent patients be at once shipped off to Brazil. A private correspondent from Montevideo writes to us that it is the general opinion in that city there will be no elections; the people seem well contented with the present Government, and as the elections might be the pretext for a row, it has been decided to dispense with this most essential of Republican privileges at least for the present. The coming races at Belgrano promise to be a great success; they will not be exclusively foreign as on former occasions: all nationalities may join, and this we regard as the best way to get up these races. The subscriptions for the Sanitary Commission are now carried on in the most extensive manner, not only money and merchandise, but even poultry, &c. The accounts published by Mr. Cerro are far more colossal than even those of the Provincial Bank. If Gelly Obes comes back, there will be a short respite to the great moral support, at present going up by each steamer to headquarters, and as far as we can learn a trifle of physical assistance will be looked for. We suppose that the levy in this city will be at least two thousand five hundred men, but even to get this number in the present hot weather will be no insignificant job for Gelly. The 'Comisioneros' are still actively engaged going about the streets, and people who have not got their Consular certificates had better look out. We hear of several young Anglo-Portenoes being walked off, and who are now being forced to serve, or put 'personeros.' When General Gelly arrives, he deserves a salute for his extreme kindness to poor Sinbad, and we leave it to our active correspondent, to do real justice to the shining military talents of Mr. Gelly Obes. Countries that can boast of such splendid military

chiefs as Don Juan Andres, ill deserve any military reviews: respecting the hay and maize, which caused all the row with Sinbad at the Paso de la Patata, we hear nothing whatever now; Gelly had it covered up when the matter was mentioned in the Standard, but we suppose it has all been consumed. Numbers say that Gelly is of Irish descent, and that his original name was Kelly; but such is not the case, Gelly is a Paraguayan, and Mr. Hopkins tells a very capital story about Gelly's father and an old lightning conductor which he put up in Paraguay, and owing to its having been improperly put up, knocked down his office, half the Government house, and nearly killed old Lopez. Poor Gelly nearly lost his life by the blunder. We hear on good authority that the note of President Mitre to the Emperor of Brazil was a simple statement of the Curupaiti affair, with a firm notification to his Majesty that things could not go on as they are going, and that if the war is to be carried on, all the officers must obey the Commander-in-chief, and the Admiral obey the Council of war. The Argentine Government, we hear, has passed a similar note to the Brazilian Government, so we suspect that the next mail from Rio will bring important news. Messrs. Scholdfield and Beaton, of London, are about to leave for the Uruguay. These gentlemen have recently visited Rosario, which town has very favorably impressed them. Buenos Ayres is an agreeable surprise for them, being a much gayer, and more lively place than what they had anticipated. The new Hotel on the Paseo Julio, called Hotel du Nord, is now becoming a very favorite English Hotel; the charges are very moderate, locality very commanding, and we believe will prove a very paying concern. General Paunero's nephew, Sr. Pividial, has left for Bolivia: many suppose that he goes on a special mission about boundaries, etc., but we are told that he visits his native country on purely private matter.

MONTEVIDEO. Death of Mrs. Garcia—Widow of Sr. Yezza—Widow wounded from Paraguay—Controversy about Sr. Lamas—Mr. King's dock at Colonia. The Durazno railway project—Brigands in Cerro Largo—Murders at Canelones. Wednesday, Oct. 17th. On Monday night, Mrs. Zaurora de Garcia, mother-in-law to General Flores, died at an advanced age, and her remains were accompanied yesterday by a concourse of people to their last resting place. The funeral of the lamented Mrs. Rucker also took place yesterday. A sad case of suicide is reported, in the person of D. Manuel Fontan, who cut his throat at the Concordia Hotel; it will be remembered he was recently robbed, and the loss of some documents preyed so much on his mind as to lead to the rash act: he has left a letter to his wife, who resides at Mercedes. Yesterday we had more arrivals of wounded from Paraguay, but the war is now over, thank God, as far as regards this country, and the Government will be able to attend to the real necessities of the Republic. General Flores promises great reforms, and they are sadly wanted in the rural districts: it is rumored that D. Andres Lamas is to be recalled from Rio, to take a seat in the cabinet, which has evoked a storm of indignation from some of the papers. Meantime we have to report several items of progress: Captain King had an interview of three hours with General Flores and succeeded in getting a full concession for his dock and break-water at Colonia: the works will soon be commenced. A saw-works is also to be established at Colonia, and a branch-bank is spoken of, besides which the submarine cable is now concluded, and the place promises to gain much importance. On Monday evening the directors of the Durazno or Central Uruguay Railway held a meeting and adopted the bye-laws, prospectus, &c. Several shares are already taken up, and as money is now cheap in London we may entertain every hope of the enterprise being successfully launched and carried through. The papers mention the arrival of General Goyu Suarez and Castro, and Col. Maximo Perez: they also contradict the rumor of the death of General Delgado; this gentleman's name is new to us. Hermann has given a second performance of sleight-of-hand. A new chapel has been inaugurated at the Policia, under the name of San Lorenzo, Monsignor Estratulas presiding. An officer named Tezanos was dismissed for desertion under peculiar circumstances: he went on board the Villa del Salto to see off a friend, and the steamer went away with him; so he says. From Paysandu we hear that small change is very scarce and the leading shop-keepers are emitting paper-tokens, notwithstanding two Banks in the town. Mr. Wells has established a branch auction-mart. Two English estancieros who went home to get married have returned, to the great joy of their neighbors, and some balls are spoken of. From Higuera we learn that the shearing will be very fine this year. From Canelones we hear of some murders. Lieut. Perez was shot twice by a police-sergeant who then knocked

him on the head with his carbine. An industrious sheepkeeper named Ouzulo was murdered and his house sacked, the offenders as usual escaping. From Cerro Largo we hear of a band of brigands infesting the locality of Tarariras and Lechiguana: they murdered one foreigner and stole his cart, and left another for dead. In another column will be found the programme of the Foreign Races, to come off on the 5th prox. The Humboldt arrived to-day; the Ada leaves on Friday. ORIENTAL. MONTEVIDEAN RACES. SPRING MEETING. November 5th and 6th, 1866. First Race at 12 n. The Solis Stakes—For horses that have never run before. Entrance \$20 m/n. Premium \$10 m/n. Weight 140lb. Once and a half round. Second Race at 12.45 p.m. The Oriental Plate—Entrance \$30 m/n. Premium \$150 m/n. Weight 150lb. Once and a half round. Gentlemen riders. Third Race at 1.30 p.m. The Hal-Bound Stakes—Entrance \$20 m/n. Premium \$100 m/n. Weight 140lb. Half round. Fourth Race at 2.30 p.m. Grand National Sweepstakes. Entrance \$50 m/n, with \$250 m/n. added by the Junta. Weight 140lb. Two rounds. Fifth Race at 3.15 p.m. The Ladies Cup—Entrance \$20 m/n. Prize, a cup worth 150 m/n. Once, and a quarter round. Gentlemen riders. Sixth Race at 4 p.m. The Heller Skelter Stakes—For horses which have lost in the other races. Entrance \$10 m/n \$50 added. Once and a quarter round. Second Day, November 6th—12 n. Extraordinary Sweepstakes—Entrance \$10 m/n. Premium, 100 m/n. For four or more horses, barabacked.

NEWS FROM THE CAMPS. WEEKLY REPORT FOR 'STANDARD' GLEANER. October 15th. No sales of sheep or cattle in this neighborhood. Sealing done: On an average about half the increase of last year, but from which we have also to deduct the great number of sheep that perished during the winter. The rent for a sheep puesto is \$7,000 to \$8,000. News in the town: That the Paraguayans won't give in, and that Tamandare is taking pity on them. State of camps, &c.: In splendid condition, both on account of the fine spring and the decrease of stock from the immense number of sheep that died during the winter. Peones' wages, and if wanted: 20 to \$25 per day, or \$40 per 100; for shearing, or \$50 if shearer remains to the end of the season, with a gold medal for the best shearer, and a silver one for the second; great want of them. Price of stock: Sheep from 20 to \$40, cattle from 50 to \$109. General remarks: There is a fever on our sheep, which causes them to lose their wool without any signs of scab. SALES. October 13th. Sales of sheep, cattle, &c.: 1,000, deliverable after shearing, for \$52, picked; no good rams for sale in the partido. Sealing done: The spring lambing will be rather better than that of autumn. Land rented: Two puestos at \$6,000 each per annum. News in the town: Business a little brisk, consequent of the shearing season. Club and table talk—the projected railway to Salto, and probable price of wool. State of camps, &c.: Magnificent, trefol in many places two feet high; small lagunas almost dry. Peones' wages: Good peones scarce, and any number would find employment at from 250 to \$500. Price of stock: Good fat novillos will readily fetch \$250 per head. Shearing in full operation; shears very scarce, and not well up to their work—more females than males, and each with an average of half a dozen children, which occasions a continual scene of uproar and mischief on the large estancias; wool very light and clean, and great care taken in getting it up well. SALES. Sales of sheep and cattle: 12,000 sheep at \$25. Sealing done: About 30 per cent. Puestos rented at 5,000 and \$6,000, none sold. News in the town: Fearful excitement about the Paraguayan war. State of camps: Excellent 'cardos' 4 feet high. Peones' wages from 250 to \$300. Price of stock: Novillos \$150 each. Shearing commenced on the 1st, but afterwards stopped on account of the weather; wool in splendid condition, and we only want liberal buyers now. MACKIE, FLORENZA & CO. SALES OF SHEEP. A few small lots of capones for consumption and boiling at 12 to 15 rs. Sealing done: Up to the 1st inst. from 25 to 50 per cent, and the flocks continuing to lamb well. State of camps, &c.: In beautiful condition, and the cattle and sheep improving fast after their severe winter ordeal.

Shepherds' wages, \$12.80 to \$15.36 m/n, and no scarcity of them. Of course, during shearing we can employ all available hands; price for shearing, quartilla per head, catchers 12 rs per day. Wool is clean and well grown, and sheep free of scab. THE CRICKET CLUB CONCERT. This anxiously looked-for amateur entertainment came off on Wednesday evening, and we are happy to add, to the full satisfaction of all concerned,—promoters, on the score of attendance, and audience on the point of performance. The Coliseum really looked gay and pleasant, forcibly reminding one of the many happy reunions of the old country. The chorus on the platform, with its front row of modestly lovely young ladies, and its rear of unpretending but accomplished English tenors and basses, was a picture in itself; and then the body of the hall was filled with such varied countenances and dresses, so unlike operative gaudiness, as to make the whole a scene of sociability rarely met with here. On behalf of the English speaking community, and other lovers of music present, we thank the Cricket Club for this treat, and congratulate them upon not only having so successfully replenished their exchequer, but also for having developed and displayed such English talent. We are afraid the Italians and Germans harbor rather a low estimate of our musical taste, believing we cannot appreciate nor execute anything beyond ballads and comic songs; but the programme of the other evening showed the error of such a notion, interspersed as it was with the most choice selection of operatic music, a beautiful piece of sacred music, some charmingly light and pretty glees, clever executions, besides our own enjoyable musical drollery; in fact, there was something for all tastes, and the most fastidious could not be but pleased. The chorus was well balanced and trained, though the alto did not make itself properly heard but in the last piece of Steven's; whether their previous parts did not give them an opportunity we cannot say, (though we certainly listened for it in 'May-day,' in particular,) but evidently they could acquit themselves well when they willed and thought. The bass showed to advantage in 'From Oberon in fairy Land,' and the precision of time in that pretty glee was exceedingly effective. In 'May-Day' neither the soprano nor tenor had warmed up to their work; and in the solo bass of that little glee we noticed a slight deviation from the reading we were accustomed to. The first piece, 'Nabuco,' had a magnificent melody, and sounded to us in the body of the hall as almost entirely a piece in unison, and probably intended for male voices. The two last choruses were excellently rendered, and we felt elated that an English amateur choir could so acquit itself; we really doubt if any professionals in Buenos Ayres could do more justice to the music. The first part-singing we had was a duet of Mr. Miles and Miss Heath, tastefully rendered, though a little timid, as was natural. Then came a tenor and a baritone duet—Messrs. Brown and Miles: the emphasis, meaning, and melody of this was splendidly given, and the encore accorded to it well deserved, though we do not approve of torturing a man the second time when he has thrown his whole soul into his first effort. Another duet, from Puritani, was by Messrs. Marshall and Miles—a piece of solid classical music, with some very delicate and difficult touches, but given to us in admirable style, the voices blending musically. Of instrumental music we had a duet on the piano by Messrs. Celestino and Hargreaves, and a solo by the former gentleman afterwards: the duet, evidently, was intended for scientific execution, and as such must have pleased the ladies immensely; but we preferred the solo, where our ear was charmed with the sweet melodies of Trovatore amidst the wonderful decorations put about them by the pianist. Twice we were delighted by three cornets-a-piston in trio, and are only sorry we did not have more of them, say a solo; they were played by Messrs. Simpson, Marshall, and—in Mendoza's 'Lift thine eyes, Elijah!' the effect was magnificent, especially that of the first horn. Of Mr. Phillip's comic interlude we need say nothing but that it was worthy of the great renown he has established for himself: the first song, the short stump speech, and the bones were inimitable; we only wished his Irishism had more brogue in it in the 'Killenny Asizes,'—the acting was most laughable and amusing. He also gave us to understand that he is wonderfully clever with his banjo, the 'Musical Age' being an imitation of bell-chiming in all its varieties and distances, on that instrument, and given in such a manner that we wondered not to see an old friend of ours, close by, looking up to the roof for the bells, and about asking one of the stewards if there was any glorious news from Paraguay, or was it on account of the cable they were chiming away.

Two months hence, and the sheep of this province will have yielded their fleecy tribute to man in return for his care; the farmers will have returned from the bustle and excitement of the wool market, and settled down again to pursue the peaceful routine of pastoral life, and the shearing of 1866 will be numbered among the events of the past. It has invariably been the philosophy of wise men to make the lessons, which experience teaches in the past, a salutary guide for the future, and it would be well if those farmers, who found the lessons of this rigid master bitter, would pause upon the threshold of the career they are about commencing, cast a retrospective glance at the evils which beset their path of progress to the present, and endeavor, by the application of a little reflection and energy, to prevent their recurrence. The shearing of 1865 was scarcely ended, when a periodical drought parched up the camps as effectually as if the withering blasts of the 'kamseen' of Egypt had passed over them. The springs of the earth sunk three yards lower than ever was remembered in the memory of the oldest inhabitant, and sheep died in thousands. Winter succeeded, and the humidity of the season renewed the vegetation, but the nascent verdure no sooner covered our plains than it disappeared, thistles sprang up and killed the famishing flocks, that eagerly devoured them, with the rapidity and certainty of a deadly poison; and those sheep which survived, reduced to a miserable condition, were badly prepared to withstand the stormy gales of a severe winter. Then came spring, that season of the year when nature opens her fertile bosom and lavishes her gifts with such profusion; when even the half-withered tree revives to acknowledge her genial influence. The camps in many partidos were destitute of the slightest trace of vegetation, and farmers, in the depth of despondency, offered their sheep at prices unequal to the value of sheepskins in former years. It is to the advantage of the seasons that these disastrous effects are to be ascribed? Decidedly not. The autumn drought would not have been attended with more serious consequences than what the watering of the animals would occasion, and abundance of pasture would have been the natural consequence of a propitious winter and spring. But the camps are excessively overstocked, and as long as they are so, the farmers may yearly expect the same series of calamities—the same retrogression in the all-important industry of sheepfarming. Unhappily various popular delusions and baseless prejudices, respecting the outside camps, have deterred many of our farmers from availing themselves of those extensive regions to escape from the ruin that surrounds them, and have induced them to rather bear those ills they have, than fly to others they know not of. The land which commonly comes under the denomination of outside camps, or those lands lying between the Salado and the frontiers, are comparatively little known, and by no means sufficiently appreciated by the majority of the farmers. The advantages these lands possess are manifest. In the first place the direful effects of the dreaded 'seca' are unfelt, there being always an abundance of grass and water at a convenient distance from the surface of the earth. But the land to which I particularly refer are the favored districts of the Bragado, Nueve de Julio, and 25 de Mayo. In 'cañadas' and among the 'peñas' flourish the 'gratful gramilla' and 'trovol de olor,' and on the esmalces which break the monotony of the landscape in graceful undulations, grows a coarse but perennial pasture, on which sheep can live and even fatten. The parts which have been previously stocked with cattle or sheep exhibit an unsurpassed richness of pasture, an incontrovertible proof of the prolific qualities of the soil. The 'peñas' and 'medanos' protect the sheep from the violence of storms, and 'corral' caps with the greatest facility, be made to afford the shelter of houses. The prices charged for the carriage of wool differ but little from those charged from Navarro, Lobos, &c. Wool was conveyed to the markets from the remote districts of the Nueve de Julio last year for seven dollars per set, without diving into a disquisition on the geological structure of soils, actual experience has proved these lands to be more adaptable for agricultural purposes than the inside camps. Vegetables of every description are easily reared, and generally well repaid (we cannot say this inside) the trifling labor expended in their production. Much more might be said in praise of these extensive tracts, did we not fear of encroaching so much on your valuable space. It may be objected that many sheep die from 'troubled' causes; granted: some die from these causes, but they do not die in the same proportion as sheep on the inside camps die. In the most favorable year from 'cardos' and other winter lent grasses alone, the farmers are accustomed to see their sheep

MANUAL.







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