

NO. 1469-SIXTH YEAR. BUENOS AYRES, THURSDAY, JANUARY 3, 1867. CIRCULATION 2500

The Offices of this Bank having been removed to the above address... MAUA BANK, CALLE CANGALLO, Nos 101-103

MAUA BANK, CALLE CANGALLO, Nos 101-103. INTEREST FOR CURRENT MONTH. IN ACCOUNT CURRENT, SPECIE.

MAUA BANK, CALLE CANGALLO, Nos 101-103. The Argentine Marine Insurance Company.

The Central Argentine Railway. Train Time Table from 1st September, 1866.

NISSAN & PARKER, ENGRAVERS, 43 MARK LANE, LONDON. CHEQUES, DRAFTS, CERTIFICATES, BONDS.

ENGLISH GRAMMAR SCHOOL. Colegio Commercial de Santa Lucia, Foot of Calle BIEEN ORDEN, BUENOS AYRES.

Hotel du Nord! Northern Hotel! Hotel del Norte!!!

ESTANCIEROS ARE YOUR ROT SHEEP OR AFFLICTED MAGGOTS. IF SO, W. CRANWELL'S, 30-CALLE RIVADAVIA-30.

LONDON AND RIVER PLATE BANK (LIMITED). 50-CALLE DE LA PIEDAD-50. Authorized Capital £2,000,000 sterling.

LONDON AND RIVER PLATE BANK (LIMITED). 50-CALLE DE LA PIEDAD-50. The rates of interest allowed and charged by the Bank will be as follows.

GREAT SOUTHERN RAILWAY. REDUCTION IN THE RATES FOR GOODS. From the 15th October, until further notice.

LANDED ESTATES OFFICE. DANIEL C. KELLY. This office undertakes farming transactions in all its varied branches.

EDICTO JUDICIAL. El Sr. Juez de 1.ª Instancia en lo civil Dr. D. Jacinto Cardenas ha dispuesto que en los dias 7, 8 y 9 del proximo mes de Enero se hagan 14 subastas.

TEMPLE & VONDER WALL. Cordoba Land and Sheep Agents, PRINCIPAL OFFICE-CORDOBA, CALLE CHACABUO, No. 68.

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GUINNESS'S Celebrated Extra Stout. In quarts and pints at BARRY & WALKER'S, Sole Agents, 97-Calle Defensa-97.

FOR ROSARIO AND PORTS. Passengers and Cargo, the Oriental Steamer SOLIS.

English Family Wine Merchants. EDWARD MEDLICOTT & CO. Beg to advise Consumers that we have received, per several steamers.

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River Plate Telegraph Co. (LIMITED). Buenos Ayres and Montevideo. On and after the first day of January 1867, the following rates will be observed.

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LA ESTRELLA. ARGENTINE FIRE INSURANCE CO. AUTHORIZED BY DECREE OF THE NATIONAL AND PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENTS.

STEAMBOAT AGENCY OF ALVAREZ & RISSO, 891-RECONQUISTA-891. For Montevideo: The Italian Steamer TEVERE, Captain Macen.

For Montevideo: The English Steamer VILLA DEL SALTO, Captain B. Magliocco.

For Montevideo: The English Steamer VILLA DEL SALTO, Captain B. Magliocco.

Christmas and New Year Gift Books. A New Series of London Toy Books, produced in the best style of coloring-printing.

Christmas and New Year Presents. One Patent Revolving Stereoscopic Machine, with views-Albums, containing several 100 and 150 Photographs.

For Bahia Blanca and Patagones. CARGO AND PASSENGERS. NATIONAL STEAM-PACKET PATAGONES.

For Bahia Blanca and Patagones. CARGO AND PASSENGERS. NATIONAL STEAM-PACKET PATAGONES.

Advertisement. DR. WHITE is now at liberty to read with Gentlemen after Three P.M. daily, in any of the following places.

THE ITALIAN BANK, 109-116 Calle Reconquista, (Between Cuyo and Corrientes).

On the 2nd January next this Bank will begin operations in this City in the following manner: 1st. Discounting Bills, Values, Conformes, and Pagars.

THE LONDON & LANCASHIRE FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY. CAPITAL, £1,000,000. INCOME, £100,000.

INSURANCES AGAINST LOSS OR DAMAGE BY FIRE may be effected with this Company on Dwelling Houses, Warehouses, Buildings, Merchandise, and Goods in the Custom-house, Bonded Stores, and private ones.

VESSELS LOADING IN PORT. L. SAGROY AND VENUYEUZ, SHIP BROKERS, 47-CALLE CANALLO-47.

BOSSUET-French ship, 3/3 L.L.I., 622 tons, Captain Corvini; Consignees Messrs. Llavallol & Sons.

SAINT LOUIS-French ship, 3/3 L.L.I., 492 tons, Captain Aronquist; Consignee Mr. Ducaze.

VILLEMI-Dutch ship, 192 tons, Captain Du Wred; Consignees Messrs. L. Sagroy & Lennuyez.

For Bahia Blanca and Patagones. CARGO AND PASSENGERS. NATIONAL STEAM-PACKET PATAGONES.

To English Travellers. Englishmen, and others visiting Buenos Ayres, will find every convenience at the Hotel de la Paix.

Advertisement. DR. WHITE is now at liberty to read with Gentlemen after Three P.M. daily, in any of the following places.

Subscription to the "Standard,"
\$10 PER MONTH.
ADVERTISEMENTS
Not exceeding five lines inserted
three times for \$5.

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

The Standard.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 3, 1867.

THE WAR IN THE NORTH.

PREPARATIONS FOR A MOVE.

DEPARTURE OF TAMANDARÉ.

PEACE RUMORS.

Corrientes, Dec. 28, 1866.

Since I last wrote there has been a vigorous stir in this place, and from what I can glean, the New Year will begin with new movements. Up at headquarters there have been many during the week sent to their last home, yet very little has been said on the matter. But, previous to my taking up military affairs, let me tell you about things here. The war is no longer waged against Lopez, but against Lanuz; and the Brazilian Cabinet will yet learn to its cost the impropriety of changing every few months the army contractors. As I mentioned in a former letter, calls have been made for proposals to feed the Brazilian army, although there was not even the shadow of a complaint against Lanuz; on the contrary, the army wanted for nothing, but these Brazilians don't understand business, and they will yet purchase dearly-bought experience. The moment it was known that bids would be called for, not only everyone here who had a few patacons ready money sent in proposals, but even some of your friends in Buenos Ayres came up, amongst others Don Juan Cruz Ocampo. Over one hundred proposals have been sent in, and at such prices! some 25, 30, and 35 per cent. under the present figure. If, consulting a miserable spirit of pretended economy, these bids or offers be taken, then I say God help the Brazilian army! Perhaps the Brazilian soldiers may be like Frenchmen and have a *penchant* for frogs; if so, it is all right, as these delicious reptiles are in millions at the encampment. Frog soup, frog beefsteak, frog stew, and roast frog, may yet become the food and maintenance of the Brazilian army. I tell you, Gentlemen, that there is a mismanagement going on, which, only that it passes under mine own eyes, I never could credit.

Lanuz is the head man here; he owns everything; has steamers, boats, launches, &c.; he has spared no expense to give the most complete satisfaction; there is no one else able to supply the army: take the contract from him, send him about his business, and empower some unknown party to supply the army; in one week Casias and his men will all be done up, starved to death, and Lopez will come out of the struggle the first man in South America. There is no use in mincing matters. Whilst Octaviano was here, there was some sense of the right and decorous, and he labored night and day to methodise the hospital and army supply; but he is gone, and there are new men and new faces here now. Lopez must be laughing in his sleeve at the whole affair. The fortunes that are being made in this war will not be known for some time to come. People in Rio believe that the fire and patriotic spirit of Brazilians is the mainstay of the army, and destined to overcome everything, but no man who has been up here for a month or so can attribute the duration of the war to purely patriotic motives: nothing of the kind! It's the fine shiny mil-rei coins which jingle about here which keep the war going; when this falls short, then the real fighting may be looked for.

Just imagine an invading enemy nine months in one miserable piece of ground, blowing, writing, talking, and doing everything but fighting; 35,000 men in a space where any of your sheepfarming subscribers would be unable to keep 1,000 sheep. There they are, and there they must remain, simply because there is no backing out. Lopez is at home in his own country, his enemies are not so.

Can any sensible man believe that such a state of things can endure? Why does not the Vice-President send up more men? People blame the abused Commander-in-Chief, but what can he do, since the Argentine Government neglects to send him up at least 10,000 men? I stood the other day on the bank of the river witnessing the Corrientino contingent being marched to the war—such a contingent!—such troops!—twenty-eight men!—and this is what Corrientes, one of the most populous provinces, gives to maintain the war. I thought of all the people at home and abroad who read and talk of the Paraguayan war, of the leading articles in the papers, the pamphlets published, &c., and then looked on these fellows defiling before me; the galling sarcasm was too much for me. Deception has had its day, and I tell you, if you think proper to print it, that

both the Argentine and Brazilian Governments must put their shoulder to the wheel and send up at least 30,000 more men without any further delay; if not this, then the sooner peace be made, and an end put to this hollow farce, the better.

Lopez and his country give not the slightest signs of exhaustion; on the contrary, he has got up more heavy guns in front of Argollo. On the 22nd he knew Tamandaré was about to leave this, and to show you how well he is posted, he poured in on the Curuzú division a galling fire from 2 a.m. till about 8 a.m., when the sun is so hot that there is no such thing as lifting the heavy cannon balls. The fleet replied, but at such an immense range that it is difficult to suppose with much effect.

Of course in Buenos Ayres it will be said nobody was killed, and few wounded; but the affair was serious, and Argollo had to scatter his men, such was the precision of the fire. These Paraguayans seem to have cat's eyes, they can see to fire in the dark. On the same morning they made a feint at Tuyuti. The outposts were shot down, more men sent to the front, Congress were pitched actually into the tents and "ranchos" of some Argentine soldiers, and one poor woman, whose husband had been called up to the ranks, was blown from her humble couch to another and, it is to be hoped, a better world.

These engagements, partial as they are, I mention, to show you that the enemy before the Allied camp, shows neither signs of exhaustion nor disaffection: the Paraguayans fight to the last. No allurements are sufficient to tamper with their allegiance or disturb their faith in a cause which more than a year ago I was led to believe as hopeless: they sigh for neither civilization nor liberty, but what they do long for is to kill their enemies and drive back the invaders.

Lopez must be weaker than what is supposed. They say here he has 25,000 men: I do not believe he has one-half that number, for if he had he would have long since pierced the Allied position at the Piris Wood, near the lake, fallen first with all his men on Curuzú, and killed and driven into the river Porto Alegre and his men, and then fallen on the Tuyuti camp and annihilated the Allies. Placed as he is, 5,000 men is amply sufficient to hold the Allies in check, as the whole line of his position is protected by a "fosse" and "abattis," ten times as strong as that of Curupaity.

The freshest news about here is, that Casias has called for several thousand bullocks, and the "on div," is that the Brazilian commander meditates a move east, possibly to the Tranquera de Loreto: bullock-carts, waggons, &c., are being got ready, and there is decidedly something in the wind. On the 25th January the bullocks are to be on the ground. Some five or six have already been contracted for the bullocks; amongst them is an Englishman, and a young man, formerly a bank clerk in Buenos Ayres—such is life. The President's brother-in-law, Colonel Vedia, is here at present: he looks very haggard and worn; he is an artillery officer of some name. General Hornos, a Buenos Ayrean officer, has arrived and leaves in the steamer. He goes on a double mission, to take Mr. Washburn's despatches to General Asboth, and to take a run through the camps and gather up a few men for his division. I almost forget to tell you that it was rumored here yesterday that we were going to have peace, which threw the whole city into a general mourning, but on better authority I learn that Lopez sent an officer on Thursday with a flag of truce and Minister Washburn's despatches for the mail. This has given rise to the rumor. Still, it is said, that the Commander-in-Chief has received a despatch from Lopez, wishing him a happy New Year, and asking for some newspapers. Mr. Washburn, I hear, is in Asuncion, and not at the encampment. The place, of course, is monstrously dull, but the Minister does not complain of this. The real rub is, he cannot get any pork and beans.

Much has been said here about a gang of Argentine deserters arrested close to: they crossed the river in the night, and were making for the estancias when nabbed. I regret to learn that there are, far more Argentine than Brazilian deserters, but this may be attributed to the fact that the Brazilians are a very long way from home.

The little steamer Dolocitas does a good business. A passenger arrived to-day in her says that at the camp there is nothing now spoken of save the great balloon and the Frenchman. It was rumored that the balloon went up this morning and was burnt; but I cannot affirm this. The balloon business is but a makeshift, and will amount to nothing.

It will no doubt interest your readers to learn the real version of the lost bombs and mortars: The Brazilians had loaded two Italian schooners at the Cerreto, to take the ammunition to Itapiru, a terrible storm came on, the boats were blown up the Paraguay river in front of Curupaity, and when the storm cleared off the Paraguayans pushed off in canoes and seized the booty. After this who will not

say that even the very elements are conspiring to help this extraordinary man Lopez. The four mortars lost are worth to the Paraguayans millions, and as for the bombs, not only are they a gain to Lopez, but they leave a large blank at Cerreto, which before next July cannot be replaced.

The Tuyuti Railway is I am told contracted for. Mr. Allan, the contractor of the Western Railway, got the contract. How much a mile has not transpired, but as the soldiers will all work as "navvies" it will cost little, and be soon finished.

Baron Tamandaré and son took leave of this place on the evening of the 23d. He came ashore for a few moments, and then returned on board the *Apia*, his flag-ship, and steered for "Aguas Abajo". There was no demonstration at his leaving. He left unnoticed and alone. No matter what people may say about Tamandaré, I believe that he is a brave, good man, and did his best. His successor has all smooth sailing, for Tamandaré organised everything. The papers in Buenos Ayres try to bound him down, but Brazil can boast of no better, no braver sailor.

Admiral Ignacio turns over a new leaf, and will shortly attack Humaitá. Seven miles of "torpedoes," beat 113 in the shade, and gunpowder and ammunition scarce. What can the man do? Far better for him to hold his own than risk everything. For should anything happen to the Brazilian fleet—the Rio influence here is at an end. The river is falling, and the bombarding vessels, two, are in the Piris Lake. To save these is now rather difficult, as the water is so low they must be carried overland. Sinbad is still at Esquina on the sick list.

MARRYATT.

MILITARY COLONY AT FRAYLE MUERTO.

Captain Wehrens has submitted to the National Government the project of a Swiss Colony and fort at Frayle Muerto, near the southern extremity of the lands settled there by Englishmen. Although the plans and details are at present under the consideration of the Minister, there can be no objection to our laying them before the public, and enlisting the sympathies of our readers to aid in the enterprise.

It is proposed to build a fort and garrison it with 50 Swiss families who have volunteered for the purpose, from the colonies of Santa Fé. Each family is to receive so many head of cattle, 40 acres of land for tillage, and pay and rations as troops of the line; they will have to keep 10 men constantly on picket-service, day about, to watch against the Indians, so that each man will have to do duty one day in five. The term of service is to be five years, at the end of which each man is to get a land-grant of 1000 acres, and for this purpose the Government of Cordoba is expected to give a concession of ten leagues of camp. Five years hence, these camps will be all settled on, and the fort will be no longer requisite. It is calculated each family will then have received about £500 sterling, between pay, stock, and land.

Captain Wehrens is confident that the colony will be perfectly safe from Indians or wild gauchos, being armed with rifles and well fortified: they will also prevent the possibility of the marauders coming within the frontier without the neighbors having timely notice. It is cheering to find that the natives of Frayle Muerto, Rio Cuarto, &c. take a lively interest in the matter; and some of them have offered donations of horned cattle for the colonists. Capt. W., we understand, is to be commander of the place, and we augur that Fort Rawson will be a model to the other frontier-posts, which are too often the scenes of mutiny and disorder.

The total cost of the fort and colony is set down at 70,000\$ (bolivian), of which 23,000\$ must be made up at once for the primary expenses. The Nat. Government will have to guarantee the rations and pay to the colonists, and contribute a part of the first expenses; the English estancieros have already put down their names for 3,000\$, and Mr. Wheelwright will, no doubt, come forward with his accustomed liberality.

On the whole we view Capt. Wehrens' project with much favor, and think Dr. Rawson made a lucky choice in entrusting him with the matter. Let no time, however, be lost in putting the project into realization; and the Indian invasions of Frayle Muerto will then have produced a positive good, as the Spanish adage goes—"No hay mal que por bien no venga."

THE FRAYLE MUERTO SETTLERS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)
Frayle Muerto, Dec. 18, 1866.
To the Standard.
Paunero marched on the 11th. His forces had been but little augmented during his stay here, and his progress till now has been beset with much difficulty. You will probably know already that San Juan also is in arms, and mysterious whispers hardly traceable to any source, yet flying about in every direction, speak of a revolution about to break out in Cordoba.

Should such a thing happen, the position of the veteran General with his handful of men would be a dangerous one, unless the termination of the "War in the North" enable Government to send him large reinforcements.

Another Indian attack on Rio Cuarto is also reported, and even here we daily expect a visit from the sons of the "Pampas," whose spies are said to be in our midst. There are those who believe that these frontier troubles have been brought about by the machinations of the revolutionary party in Mendoza in their wish to embarrass the National Government.

On the evening before Paunero's departure a general meeting of the English settlers in this neighborhood was held, followed by quite a splendid dinner, to which no less than 33 persons sat down. The object of the meeting was to concert measures to assist Government in establishing a military colony for the special protection of this locality. A committee was appointed for the raising of funds, who, in the course of the evening, guaranteed \$2000, and whose operations will soon be extended to Rosario, Buenos Ayres and Cordoba. Frayle Muerto, that is, the native part of the town, has also opened a subscription.

General Paunero took a lively interest in the proceedings of the evening, and spoke at some length.

Next day, Capt. Wehrham of the Engineers, who had been sent up by the National Government to select a site for the "fortin," set out with an escort of some 20 settlers on his way south. He has determined upon a spot close to the Saladillo, and the Provincial Government is now being petitioned for a grant of land around it.

Copy of resolutions passed unanimously by a meeting of the Frayle Muerto settlers on the night of the 10th inst., T. Thomas Esq. in the chair:

1. That a committee of 5 be appointed to immediately open a subscription-list for the purpose of assisting Government in the speedy and effectual execution of its plans of defence.

2. That this committee consist of Messrs. Bell, Purdy, Goodriche, Talbot and Stowe.

3. That these gentlemen be also charged with drawing up a document expressing the gratitude of the settlers to the National Government, more particularly Dr. Rawson, who had so well understood the necessities of the foreign element in the neighborhood and had chosen a mode of defence particularly gratifying.

4. That thanks be returned to Gen. Paunero, who, by his presence and counsel greatly contributed to the success of the meeting.

5. That the Fort be called Fort Rawson.

6. That a petition be sent to the Provincial Government of Cordoba, praying for a further grant of outside lands to each military settler, which, however, should not be occupied till their term of service be expired; thus holding out an additional inducement to deserving families.

It was further determined that 20 settlers should escort Capt. Wehrham on his trip south for the selection of a suitable site for the fort.

\$2,000 Bol. were guaranteed that night after dinner by the committee, and next morning the village of Frayle Muerto, of its own accord, opened a subscription, which promises well.

The committee intend to call upon Buenos Ayres and Rosario to aid the plan.

SCANDALOUS CONDUCT OF AN 'ALCALDE'.

It is our painful duty to chronicle one of the most disgraceful assaults on an Englishwoman, by an 'alcalde,' that ever came under our notice. It appears that the 'alcalde' in question lived in one of Mr. Price's houses, and for some time had been living rent-free. Mrs. Price, on the evening of the 31st, called on this 'alcalde,' Don Carmelo Moreno, to pay up, as he owed several months' rent. The fellow not only did not pay, but commenced abusing in unmeasured language Mrs. Price, and at last rushed out, struck her first in the stomach, and then between the eyes: she fell bleeding and senseless to the ground. Mr. Price, who was at a distance, rushed to the scene of outrage, but the 'alcalde' took to his heels, and as Mr. Price had to attend to his wounded wife, he was unable to follow the fellow; when, with the aid of the neighbors, he succeeded in getting Mrs. Price into her room, he started in pursuit of the assaulter, and went with the neighbors to the Comisario to have the fellow arrested; but the Comisario was out and would not return before nine o'clock, and, as a matter of course, the 'alcalde' escaped.

There is a great moral to be drawn from this case. Never, on any terms, rent your house to an 'alcalde.' The case demands the most searching inquiry, and we hope Mr. Cazon will deal justice to the outraged Englishman and his family. The 'alcalde' is only hiding. He must be found and punished in the most exemplary manner. Mrs. Price is still in a very precarious state.

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EDITOR'S TABLE.

New Year's Day was a very pleasant day. The suburbs were crowded, in fact there was a general rush out of town. The Northern and Boca Railways did a splendid business. All the Ministers of both Governments spent the day outside; there was not a single member of the Government in the city, yet the town could not be quieter if even the President himself were in his house in Calle San Martin.

The Southern Railway has opened very commodious premises in Calle Lima as the new station for the tramway: the place is nicely fitted up and a decided improvement on the old station in that street. We travelled up from Barracas yesterday, and were pleased to note the large passenger business which this local line is doing. At the head station in the Plaza Constitución there was the greatest signs of business going on, and we noticed numerous ponderous bullock-carts, with the wheels off, sitting on the waggons. The South Plaza is not so very full of wool as we expected, but the whole neighborhood of the Plaza is undergoing immense improvements—new yards, houses, and barracks on all sides. There is no point where the progress of the town can be seen with greater effect than here. The basar nuisance has ceased, not because Dr. Leslie or Don Pepe Herrera interfered, but simply because the offal and dirt of the city is exhausted.

It is a strange fact that this year centipedes are more numerous and annoying than ever, also venomous spiders; the former are not so poisonous, but if they cross the face during sleep it produces an ugly rash, from which children principally suffer.

Turkeys in the market are \$70 each, and a sheep only \$25. Our readers will hardly believe this, yet it is a positive fact. Turkeys in the camp sell for 30 to \$40 each, whilst cocks and hens for the town market, the butchers inform us, command nearly as high a price as sheep; eggs sell at \$10 per doz., and are all bought up at this price. Formerly we imported eggs in large quantities from the Uruguay, but of late this trade has died off.

The estancia sold by auction by Don Mariano Billinghurst last week, two square leagues of prime land, near Chapaleofu, was knocked down to a Basque sheepfarmer in \$120,000—\$240,000 for the whole place, with estancia house, &c.

At the recent elections in Washington young Miró and Hallbach had very narrow escapes: they wanted to enter the booths to see the polling going on, but the policemen soon sent them about their business.

We greatly regret to hear that there are signs of disease this season in the muscatel grapes: the green fruit withers, and some insect is evidently at work at the plant. This grape is the best and most delicious grown in this country, and it would be a very great loss to us all if the muscatel fail this season.

The Brazilian Government has now over 1,000 men armed with the needle-gun; the men practice daily, and are divided into picquets through the army. Breech-loaders are also up at the allied camp, having been bought at auction in Rio by the Brazilian Government.

We hear of a rather amusing case on the Western Railway the other day: An English broker with his family started for Flores, and the cars were so full that the broker had to go in one coach, and his wife and children in another; when he arrived at Flores he found that the coach with his wife and family, by some mistake, had been left behind at Almagro station, and he was obliged to go back on foot to look for his better half. At a picnic at the Floresta the other day, the train went smash over some carts, but no lives lost.

Mr. Amorim, the manager of the Mauá Bank, requests us to call attention to the fact that the Savings Bank of the Mauá Bank in this city will henceforth be only open on business days, no business being henceforward transacted on Sundays or holidays.

We passed by the saladero of Don Leonardo Pereira yesterday morning: the place was thronged with cattle and ponies, but the scarcity of ponies is so much felt that last week cattle were shut up for several days. The ponies earn at present the most extravagant wages—the skimmers 100 to \$120 per day, and the 'charqueadores' or cureros 220 to \$240 per day; such enormous wages are without precedent, and we know of no business, not even gold digging, which could resist such extraordinary wages.

A person in England writes to us for information respecting the following:—John and James Watt started from Santa Rosa, at the foot of the Andes (Chile side), to come to Buenos Ayres, on the 4th of June, 1866, and have not since been heard of. They had a fellow traveller of the name of Boland.

La Republica, a newspaper, appeared on Tuesday in an elegant form, handsomely got up, of the same size as the *Tribuna*, and almost at half the usual price. It reflects much credit on Mr. Bernheim as a work of typography, and the editorial articles are written with fluency and good taste.

But there is something more than all this requisite for a newspaper in Buenos Ayres, namely, to have the latest news from the Seat of War, from M. Video, from the Upper Provinces, &c. If the editors work hard, and persevere for six months, they will cause a decided competition (at \$25 a month), and oblige the other papers to reduce their charge.

Some of the station masters on the Western Railway remind us of Mr. Harold Skimpole, in the 'Bleak House,' as they appear to misunderstand the value of money. Only a few days ago we called attention to the rapid decline in gold out at Chivilcoy, where a sovereign at the railway station only passed for \$100, when the price in Buenos Ayres was \$112. But a still more flagrant case has come under our notice, and we call the attention of the Board of Directors to it: An estanciero from Rojas arrived on Christmas Day at the Mercedes station just in time to catch the 7 o'clock train; he asked for a first-class ticket to town, price \$57, and handed the station master \$60 to pay for same; as the last whistle had been given, he had no time to wait for his change, but ran for the coaches, and when the train started and the guard came round, he found to his astonishment that the station master had cheated him, by giving a second instead of a first class ticket; our friend, of course, had nothing to do but to pay the difference, which though but a trifle is sufficient to test the honesty of the Western Railway officials.

The trick is by no means a new one, but whenever perpetrated on a railway in Europe costs the station master his situation. The very same question occurred with Sr. Botet, the Judge of Barracas; he called for a first and received a second class ticket. In the case in question, it would be prudent to notify the station-master of Mercedes of the complaint, as it may be possible that in the hurry of the train leaving he made the mistake inadvertently, and gave the second class ticket thinking it was called for; and as the party in question did not wait for his change, he cannot, of course, say the station master would not have over-charged him. However, the difference coming to our friend, which is about \$25, should be returned to him.

Yesterday Mr. Bader's funeral took place. He died on Tuesday afternoon whilst conversing with a friend. He leaves a wide circle of friends to deplore his loss.

One of the most mysterious cases that has occurred in this city for some time turned up on Monday last. We give the following particulars, gathered from a reliable source:—On Monday afternoon a man presented himself at Cabral's stable-yard, and asked for a coffin for a poor negro woman who had just died; the clerk asked \$200 for it, which the other complained of as very dear; as it was more a case of charity than anything else; whereupon the young man replied, that as it was a case of charity he might take the coffin for nothing.

The other replied, that if he could send a hearse there and then, and a man to bury the corpse, he would pay the \$200; but the hearse was at the moment at the Recoleta. However, a peon was got to take the coffin to the house, to put the body of the "old negro woman" into the coffin, nail it up, and when the hearse returned to take it off. It was all agreed, the peon took the coffin to the house, which is in front of Aston's, in Calle Piedad, and occupied, we believe, by a Congral, Sr. Uriburu. When the peon got the coffin up the stairs, and into the room where the corpse lay, the man told him that there was the body, to put it into the coffin, and nail it up; the peon set about it—but Oh! horror of horrors! when he lifted the cloth that covered the corpse, instead of an old nigger woman, there lay the form of a handsome young girl, about 16 years of age, bathed in blood! The peon reeled and staggered out of the room, he refused to touch the corpse, and fled the house. When he returned to the coach-yard he told his tale, and as the coach-house is in front of the *Nacion Argentina* printing-office, one of the clerks there heard of the matter, and soon the whole affair was known at the Policia. In the evening, the man from Cabral's yard was summoned to the Policia; when he arrived there, Patheco, the commissary, had four men in the room, and he was at once sent about his business, the commissary stating that they knew all. Meanwhile, on that very evening, the coffin with the corpse was taken to the Recoleta, and every effort made to bury it then and there; but the coffin was stopped in the dead-house, as the party had died that day, and according to the regulations should remain there until the following day. Now, here is a most mysterious and bloody affair; it must all be hushed up, as a matter of course, as is the custom in this country, and on the plea of not interfering with justice. But we hold the Chief of Police and Comisario responsible to the public—a dark deed has been committed. The corpse, we hear, was that of a young handsome girl, apparently a lady of position, and the public has a right to know how that poor girl came by

her death. Until we get a coroner in Buenos Ayres, we never can hope to see such cases as the present properly dealt with. The whole circumstances of the case induce the belief that the poor girl met with foul play.

SHOCKING MURDER.

THE CARPENTER OF THE "ESPARTILLAS" MURDER.

Ranchos, Dec. 27th, 1866.

To the Editors of the Standard.

Last night a shocking murder was committed in one of the Puestos of the *Espartillar* on the person of a Dane who was also employed on the said Estancia as carpenter, and much valued for his steadiness and honesty. From what I could learn this morning and from the excited statements of the wife (who by the bye is an Irishwoman or rather of Irish parents) it appears that at dusk, the door of the Puesto being open, a single man entered and as the unfortunate man was coming out of the inner room to meet the person, not suspecting any foul play, the intruder in cold blood stabbed the man to death. The wife was present and nothing was done to her neither did the assassin rob anything, but, having quenched his thirst for blood or have avenged some supposed wrong, disappeared, contented with his night's work. The poor woman then ran away from the house with her children to the Estancia to give notice of the foul deed, and from her contradictory statements and the statement of one of the children, a relation of hers is suspected, he being known to have been a determined enemy of the unfortunate victim and having threatened him before. In fact, gentlemen, it is plainly to be seen that it is the work of an enemy, for not a single thing in the house has been touched or moved away. It is also strange that the murder should take place the very first evening that the unfortunate man was alone with only his family, for he always had a peon, and it is remarkable that the peon used never to be away from the place but that very morning had started for Buenos Ayres on some business. It is also strange that the widow should act in such a way as to make even a child think she wanted to screen some one. The body has passed into the Guardia and I believe that a "Comision" have started in pursuit of the suspected party. You may depend that if it is possible, if it is in human means to catch this cold-blooded villain, he will be brought to justice and executed, for Mr. Reid in his usual spirited and Englishman-like manner will not leave a stone unturned. I am convinced, until he has the assassin brought to justice. If our authorities only had a little of his spirit, activity and intelligence, there perhaps would be more security for life in the camp.

When the declarations are taken I will let you know more about this horrible affair, as also the name of the assassin.

I am, gentlemen,

Yours truly,

ESTRELLA.

MONTEVIDEO.

January 1st, 1867.

Two new banks begin operations to-morrow: the Italian with a paid-up capital of a million \$, under the experienced direction of Mr. Guimaraens; and the Banco Hipotecario, capital 200,000\$ in 400 shares of 500\$ each. The latter has a large board of directors, Messrs. Pomés, Perez-Irigaray, Tulzo &c., with Sr. Ximeno for manager: it will advance sums of money for long terms, up to 25 years, on security of real estate, the borrower paying 20 per cent. per an. for interest and sinking-fund; or money on short dates at 17 per cent.; besides emitting mortgage-notes with 12 per cent interest.

The old-established firm of George Bell & Co. changes its title to-day to Bell, Towers & Co.

On Saturday the steamer Gerente arrived with Messrs. Salvañach and Zipitria, recently liberated from a Brazilian prison through the request of Gen. Flores: on landing they at once proceeded to the Government-house to thank the General. The Gerente also brought 35 soldiers to reinforce the army of Marquis Casias.

The Government issued a decree on Saturday nominating Messrs. Aguiar, Castro, Acosta, Herrera-obes, and Rodriguez Caballero, to draw up a code of regulations on the distinct attributes of the Junta and Gefé Politico, who sometimes find themselves in rivalry.

The police have recovered Mr. Herrera's album, and the latter has presented the commissary with a diamond ring.

It is likely this city will ere long be connected with Rio Janeiro, by telegraph. The wires are now complete and working between the Brazilian capital and Santos, and will soon be extended to Rio Grande. The River Plate Co. will, doubtless, push on to Cerro Largo and Rio Grande.

The *Bonitas* are playing with great success at the San Felipe, and the *Café Iberico* gives three concerts a week. Morgan the dentist, also, amuses the public with his tremendous denunciations of people that (he says) owe him for false teeth.

