

THE "STANDARD" Sent to Subscribers in Europe by each fortnightly mail.

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No notice can be taken of anonymous communications. Whatever 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.

TUESDAY, MARCH 26, 1867.

REVIEW FOR EUROPE.

During the past fortnight nothing of any great importance has occurred. Affairs at the allied headquarters are without change; no attack has yet been made on the Paraguayan lines, and since the bombardment of Curupaity, which we noticed in our last review, the Brazilian squadron has remained motionless.

THE WAR IN THE NORTH.

ARRIVAL OF THE ESPIGADOR. FIVE THOUSAND TROOPS SENT TO OSORIO. ANOTHER SHIP BURNED. Yesterday the steamer Espigador arrived at her usual hour, bringing some news of importance.

LATEST FROM ROSARIO.

THE ALARM ABOUT CHOLERA.

The establishment of the Provincial Bank Exchange-office has so effectually fixed the value of the paper dollar, that patacons and paper money have ceased to be the subject of speculation, and the brokers have nothing else, save National Bonds, to dabble in; but the recent rise in the value of these securities has afforded stupendous gains, principally to the English and other foreign merchants, who were by far the largest holders.

ROSARIO. REVIEW FOR THE PACKET. (FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT). Rosario, March 19th. Fulfilling the promise in my last letter, I shall dedicate the greater part of this to the statistical data I have been able to gather.

Table with columns for various goods like Red Pepper, Leather, Horns, Alfalfa seed, etc., and their respective prices.

A very large amount of dry alfalfa and corn has been shipped from Rosario on account of the Brazilians, of which no accurate account is to be procured.

You will remark in the column for 1866 the exportation of 389 arrobes of algarroba. There is every reason to suppose that this article will form in the future an important item of export.

In alfalfa seed there is a great falling off, attributable to the largely increased produce of Buenos Ayres and Banda Oriental. The trade in Correntino tobacco and cigars has ceased entirely, I suppose on account of the war.

The Humboldt, which left yesterday for Europe, took home a full cargo, and a large number of passengers. We note in the list several sheep-farmers, who go to the Paris Exhibition.

amount was 47,123 quintals, while in 1866 it had risen to 83,372 quintals. In Tucuman tobacco the export in 1866 equalled the aggregate of 1865, three preceding years.

Table with columns for various goods like Hair, Goat and Kid, Nutria Skins, Carpincho do, etc., and their respective prices.

By this table we see that about one-third of our wool has been exported direct from Rosario.

A very large portion of the wool produced in this province—most of that of Pavon and the Arroyo del Medio—is shipped in San Nicolas, and of course does not enter into the data accumulated by the laborious writer in the Ferro-Carril.

The Ibcuy from Rosario arrived on Sunday, bringing us four days later news from the Provinces. The diligence from the north had arrived.

Mr. Doltz, of the Tigre, has offered for the railway terminus a piece of land on the north-west bank of the Tigre river, at the mouth of the Lujan. The railway would then have to be carried across the Tigre river, but it would be an immense improvement, and would doubtless augment the traffic of the railway considerably;

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still to carry the line across this river would cost the company a deal of money. On the hill tops at the Socorro we notice Mr. J. M. Estrada is building a palatial residence: the quinta has been renowned for its commanding position and charming view, but now it promises to eclipse Lezama's, and from the windows of the drawing-rooms on a clear day the coast of the Banda Oriental can be distinctly seen.

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Mr. Wheelwright left last night in the Rio Parana for Montevideo. If the French packet arrives there today, we expect a telegram with the news. The Italian gunboat Arditia arrived yesterday from up the river, also the steamer Uruguay, from Liverpool, one of the best and most punctual steamers plying between England and the Plate.

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At eleven p.m. the Governor and suite entered the ball-room; the national hymn was sung, and dancing followed immediately after; the Governor does not seem to be a qualified dancer; however, he danced four or five times and was very gallant in the ball-room as also at the supper-table; Louisa Kelly, a child not yet five years of age, crossed the ball-room in a very masterly style, handed the Governor a small bouquet, welcomed him to Las Flores and hoped his visit to the camp would please him and serve the country. The ball ended at 4 o'clock in the morning.

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The Standard.

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LATEST FROM ROSARIO.

THE ALARM ABOUT CHOLERA.

The cholera panic is increasing here, and principally owing to the fright and impudence of some of our medical men. Nineteen have died in the last three days, about seven or eight above the ordinary average of the city.

The establishment of the Provincial Bank Exchange-office has so effectually fixed the value of the paper dollar, that patacons and paper money have ceased to be the subject of speculation.

Money comes very cheap, but is gradually rising into better demand, and Exchange which last week was quoted as low as 49, and even 48 1/2, closes for the packet at 49; the main cause of the decline in the rate was the very few shipments of produce during the fortnight.

There have been few estancia sales during the fortnight, in fact, none of sufficient importance to notice. Land in this province is scarce, save out at exposed points on the frontier.

Dry cowhides have risen greatly in value within the past fortnight, from \$122 to \$140 currency per pesada.

The Governor of Buenos Ayres is travelling along the frontier line of the Province, and taking steps to protect the lives and properties of the estancia owners in those exposed parts.

General Urquiza has given a magnificent banquet at his estate in Entre Rios; a full account of which will be found in another column.

Our railways are all doing a good business. Trade is rather brisk, and, upon the whole, affairs in Buenos Ayres wear a sunny aspect.

REVIEW FOR THE PACKET.

Fulfilling the promise in my last letter, I shall dedicate the greater part of this to the statistical data I have been able to gather.

Our Provincial Government, as I mentioned in my last, is alive to this necessity, and the National Government ought not to delay the establishment of a proper office in the Custom-house.

With the exception of Tucuman, it is unsatisfactory to note that all the provinces of the Interior are more or less stationary. In the four principal articles we receive from Tucuman—tanned hides, tobacco, pelones, and cheese—the increase is very fair.

Table with columns for goods (Red Pepper, Leather, Hides, Alfalfa, etc.) and prices for the years 1863, 1864, 1865, and 1866.

I will commence with a comparative statement of the export of principal articles during the years 1863, '64, '65, and '66.

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The little steamer Fanny, which was brought out here by Capt. Batty last year, and sold to Messrs. Garcia, who took her up to the Pampa de la Patria, is now lying at the Tigre, and on sale.

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The steamer from the Uruguay arrived only on Monday, bringing us the exchanges. The Uruguay publishes the best of all accounts of the feast at San Jose, and thanks the Standard editor for his complimentary remarks about the Entre Riano press.

Business in Montevideo is very brisk, and we note the following produce sales on Saturday: 7,000 ar. good mestiza wool, (reserved price.)

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with a body of rebels under the command of Chumbito. From Salta, Jujuy, and Santiago we have also papers, but there is nothing new; things rule quiet. Gen. Rojas has paid the Santiaguenean troops.

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Mr. Gowland sold by auction on last Sunday a large pile of timber collected from the wrecks in and about Los Olivos, the wreck which Dr. Wineberg destined for the chief plaza in his smiling village.

The Italian gunboat Arditia arrived yesterday from up the river, also the steamer Uruguay, from Liverpool, one of the best and most punctual steamers plying between England and the Plate.

The Bank being unable to obtain its price for the Saavedra estancia, it will be sold by auction shortly.

The Governor arrived at Cañuelas on the 16th, and was startled to hear that the Indians were invading the Southern Frontier; this alarm was spread through the village, by the mayoral of one of the coaches from this town.

The alarm was, very much exaggerated; the facts are simply these: in the frontier skirmish which took place last month there were some twenty Indians killed, and the Commander of the frontier, fearing the Indians would seek revenge during this month, determined to be prepared and moved his forces some leagues further out.

The Governor, now in possession of the real facts and assured that the Indians were not bent on taking into captivity a live governor, amused himself at all sly in Canuelas from whence he started towards Guardia del Monte, breakfasting midway between these towns, at Mr. John White's estancia, where he got a warm reception and a hearty cheer such as Britons alone know how to give.

The party were warmly received at Guardia del Monte, from whence they started very early for Las Flores on the morning of the 20th.

His Excellency arrived at half past two o'clock and appeared well pleased with the reception he got; the first evening passed off in salutations; his Excellency was duly serenaded at night; at his own request there was no ball given to him the night of the 20th as he complained of being very much fatigued.

After breakfast on the 21st the Governor and suite visited the schools, the church, the cemetery, &c.

At eleven p.m. the Governor and suite entered the ball-room; the national hymn was sung, and dancing followed immediately after; the Governor does not seem to be a qualified dancer; however, he danced four or five times and was very gallant in the ball-room as also at the supper table.

Doctor Rocha, the Governor's secretary, is a gentleman of few words but a keen observer and extremely anxious to acquire information that would serve his country and honour himself.

The Governor in a toast pledged his word that, six months after the Paraguayan war be ended he would entirely exempt the National Guards of frontier service; this is of the utmost importance and a sacred pledge.

The Governor and suite left Las Flores en route for Tapalque at half past two p.m. on Friday the 22nd, and reached Sr. Goya's estancia, distant eight leagues from here, at seven.

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SUMMARY FOR THE FORTNIGHT.

THE WAR IN THE NORTH.

Yataty, March 14, 1867. The British Attaché, Captain Watson, arrived on Sunday and repaired at once to the Generalissimo's tent. He had a long interview with the Marquis Caxias, and on 18th inst. sent some despatches to the U. S. Minister in Asuncion.

At 7 o'clock this morning the Minister took his leave; he was accompanied by Caxias and staff to the front of our lines, where he was met by his escort; the white flag was again hoisted and away they galloped to their own lines.

The other day a deserter was brought in; he represents himself as belonging to the Cordova battalion, and that he was made prisoner on 24th of May; a watch has been put on him, as he is generally regarded as a spy of Lopez.

HON. MR. WASHBURN IN TUTU.

The despatches received on Monday night by Esmeralda are as follows:—The guerrillas continue, and wounded men are each morning carried to the rear. At daybreak on the 9th the Paraguayans surprised one of our outposts, and having killed and wounded some carried off an officer and sergeant, both Corrientinos, as prisoners; this misfortune was mainly caused by the utter want of precaution on the part of the Corrientinos.

On the evening of the 12th the enemy sent an officer across the lines with a white flag. He was at once taken to the tent of Caxias, and his business enquired, when he stated that the American Minister wished to cross the lines to send some despatches to his Government and also to get some newspapers.

As yet I cannot say the exact sum we lost, but the cash to myself amounts to £70, to Mr. Wilder £35, and to the captain £250, the whole of which I have no doubt will be refunded.

had mutinied and were shooting and cutting at everybody they could find. The officers finding that they could not subdue them made good their escape by jumping overboard and swimming for shore. The rebels afterwards boarded masters of the Chacabuco, and we being both inferior in men and arms made for the cabin and fortified ourselves in it. Not wishing to be banked of their prey the mutineers got up upon the cabin and commenced firing on us through the skylight, winding Mr. Wilder in the hand and the steward in the chest, the latter so dangerously that he is not expected to live.

These unusual demonstrations caused much surprise, and their every movement was anxiously watched by us all. For some time past rumors of peace were current, and all were trying to catch the least word that could confirm them, but the greatest caution was everywhere observed, and up to the present nothing has divulged to show the least light on the matter.

THE WAR OF THE ANDES.

PAUNERO ON THE MARCH. Advice from General Paunero's camp has been received in town up to the 16th inst. Horses had arrived from Santa Fé and Buenos Ayres, and in prime condition, but it requires the greatest care to keep them from wandering back to their 'querencias.'

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mand that has existed since the commencement of the year. The sales of our two principal importing houses, the dry goods line, Messrs. Duguid and Co., and Messrs. Benberg and Heimendahl, have not fallen off, although the trade with the interior is almost paralysed.

The retail shops of Rosario absorb all the imports. Of these latter we may mention first-class, of which I now several Miller, Mata, and Co.; Aldao and Gomez, Lazaro Costa, Carreaga, Alfaro, and Co.; David, Brothers; Crisanto Rua, Marull and Correa, Del and Elguero, Juan Castagnino, Cruzato Villasant, G. Puente, Pablo Falcon, Borzoni, Brothers; J. Campodionio, V. Brignardello, Copola, Brothers; and Gozalez, Brothers.

We have no Englishmen as retail dry goods men. We have a very good English grocery store, Messrs. Baker and Templeton, who do a large town business, as well as furnishing the English camp people. Another, belonging to Messrs. Kean and Goerck, has also a good business. Baker and Templeton intend to import direct from the British markets, and will add to their present business a stock of English clothing, boots and shoes, &c., which will be a great boon for our foreigners.

The wholesale druggists are Demarachi, Brothers, and Manuel Puccio. All these are good, sound, and most of them wealthy firms.

I must add the French importing houses of C. Groguet and F. Laprade. All the wholesale houses import large quantities of goods direct.

The provision houses are generally branches of Montevidean firms. I have mentioned in another letter the scarcity of artisans. To give you an idea of this scarcity I will tell you what occurred to myself. I wanted four or five locks put on some trunks.

The large, ugly-looking Government-house is now being pulled down, and a handsome two-story building is to be built in its place, at a cost of about thirty-five thousand dollars.

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The river still continues very high, and as we have yet only two small boats to land the passengers in boats. Mr. Castellano's slips are very useful for small craft; but large vessels cannot enter them. We went about a thousand feet of iron floating wharves, and the idea of forming a company for this object is being mooted by Mr. Mariano Cabal, the millionaire of Santa Fé.

The wheat crop in the southern part of this province is partly a failure this year. The cold and frosts of the month of November and December did a great deal of damage. The wheat is dirty and shrunk, and will not average more than a two-third crop.

The Californian settlers of the Chaco, desirous of showing the Governor the progress they are making, commissioned Mr. McLean to transmit a formal invitation to Mr. Orozio to visit their Colony.

At Fernando's we stopped three nights and two days, and then started on for D. Henriquez, which is on the land in the name of Daniel Burke on the map, and from there we came here, but not being able to find the landmarks we went to Chiriqui Lofu, which you will find on the map in Raparal land; the same afternoon we went to Godoy's house, which is an azotea of two stories surrounded by a fosse. Chiriqui Lofu is one of the Fortines.

The first night, while at Godoy's, we heard three guns fired from the fortin, which means 'que hay novedad de Indios.' Our first care was to secure as many of the horses as possible inside of the fosse, tie up some others close to it, and put the remainder in the corral.

To establish an estancia in Santiago is not expensive. Timber, for houses and corrales, abounds, and labor very cheap, the wages being only 2 reales per day with a modest fare of meat, corn, and salt, no yerba or caña; the peones, though not more active, are certainly more orderly than the general run in the lower provinces.

The price of cattle on an average is \$6, with 8 to \$10 for young cows; mares 5 to \$6, and tame horses from 8 to \$10; sheep about \$1 per head. The only breed of sheep here is the large long-wooled Pampa, with an average fleece of 4 and 5 lbs., rams and capones 7 to 8 and even 12 lbs., on good pasture.

The land in the vicinity of Carmen appears to be deteriorated, from overstocking and cropping, with the usual results—abrojo, caratilla, thistles, and other weeds making their appearance, and the catap weaving, as we heard of, and bare aspect it does not here. Suertes of estancia half a league river frontage, with 1 league in depth, can be bought near the town at from 30,000 to \$40,000 mpc; but the quality is not so good as that higher up, which, however, is in very few hands.

There are several large islands and peninsulas on the sea coast, from

per arr., but the Salado navigation will be completed before long, and in the meantime, when sufficient traffic is to be had on the frontier, a troop of carts can be despatched from here direct to the Parana, which thus would be only 8 days journey, instead of the tedious and circuitous route by Cordoba to Rosario.

Perhaps the most profitable enterprise in these parts is the mule trade. Mules are bought in Santa Fé and Entre Rios at from 5 to \$6, they are brought to Santiago, tamed, fattened on the 'algarroba,' and then sold to the Bolivian dealers at from 15 to \$20. The expenses incurred, including occasional losses, may be calculated at \$4 per head, thus leaving an average profit of 75 per cent.

Cotton, I believe, will shortly be a staple article of export from this province. The climate suits its growth admirably, the fibre is of superior quality, and hands are not wanting to gather it.

Ascending the 'barranca' or cliff on the side of which the town of Carmen (Patagones) is built, the road to the Salinas runs for about two miles through thickets of mimosa and other thorny bushes, 10 or 12 feet high, and very similar I imagine to the scrub of Australia. Further on the country becomes more open, single bushes here and there, soil loose and sandy, with a fair sprinkling of coarse grass, which would perhaps carry two sheep to a cuadra.

In some of the large 'bajas' or low lying land there is abundance of coarse grass. We found the surface 'lagunas' dried up, but water is got at from 10 to 30 varas, according to the undulation of the land. This, from all I could learn, is much about the character of hundreds of leagues of unoccupied rolling table-land on either side of the valley of the Rio Negro.

After seeing the above I started with Comandante Murga-up the valley or delta of the river. This is from 2 to 5 leagues in width, bounded on each side by the table-land already mentioned. The very winding course of the river from one side to the other of the valley makes numerous 'rincons' or peninsulas, its many loops also enclosing numbers of small islands. These are of excellent alluvial soil, with abundance of the large red willow, which is almost the only timber for building purposes in Patagones. The small but deep ponds here and there fringed with these trees, the good covering of excellent grass, and the fresh and park-like appearance of the whole country, was very gratifying after the parched up flats of Buenos Ayres.

Receding from the river bank the soil is stronger, with here and there clayey gravels, and occasional patches of sal-til, but of good average quality; and considering the extreme drought this season, and that the locusts have been more than usually troublesome, it is well covered with good grass, of different varieties, among which may be mentioned alfalfa silvestre, crevada de olor, alverjilla, gramilla, trevadia, alfilerilla, cola zona, &c. Wheat generally gives a large crop, and of good quality, but this year much has been lost through the drought. Some of the standing crops of Indian corn were the finest I have ever seen; and the luxuriant growth of vegetables and fruit trees in the little gardens of the soldiers at the fort attested the wonderful richness of the soil.

The above description applies to the land from 5 leagues above Carmen up to the Travieta, 23 leagues further on, which, my time being limited, was the highest point I reached. Here, had the Welsh decided to come from the Chupat, it was intended to locate the colonists, and establish in a very good strategic position a military outpost for their defence. It was told by all who had gone higher up, that generally gives a large crop, and of good quality, but this year much has been lost through the drought. Some of the standing crops of Indian corn were the finest I have ever seen; and the luxuriant growth of vegetables and fruit trees in the little gardens of the soldiers at the fort attested the wonderful richness of the soil.

I saw three out of the four fine estates owned by Messrs. Aguirre and Murga on the banks of the Negro. They are stocked with many thousands of sheep, all of which were as fat and healthy as possible. The peones, many of whom were foreigners, told me the average increase was 60 to 70 per cent, and appeared highly satisfied with their contracts, most of them being of the Scotch breed, the wool, like that of Bahia Blanca, is rather light and too harsh and dry, resulting, perhaps, partly from the climate, but chiefly, I think, from the parent flocks, which were driven overland from Tandil, having been of inferior mestiza quality. There was one small flock of very fine Pampas, and judiciously crossing this breed with Corawolds or Lincolns I am convinced a valuable long-wooled sheep could be obtained, far more suitable to the climate and camp than the Negretti or Rambouillet. All the horned stock were in excellent condition, and the meat is much firmer and of better flavour than that used in Buenos Ayres. The horses are of medium height, but with their shoulders and bone than those hereabouts. Though only camp fed, the trotters we took with us were in that hard muscular condition which hunting men term 'fit,' and carried us at a swinging gallop league after league without turning a hair. Pigs do remarkably well, and I saw about 700 on an island, the progeny of 80 crossed Berkshires turned loose upon it 10 months before, good looking animals, and more than half fat.

revolver, so that we consider we run no risk. The invasion is now over. The land I came out to see is very fine, the greater part being of pastos tiernos and puna, which is the coarsest of grass. I must also remark that the pastos tiernos are of various classes, so that a sufficient supply can be depended upon at all seasons. Large 'cañadones' pass through the land, and the high land is of good pasture. These lands are all of full 'carodon,' but I do not consider it so objectionable as the thistle, as I find that pastos tiernos grow among it. There is some 'romerillo,' but only occasionally a few plants, but I learn that sheep and other cattle do not eat it where there is so great an abundance of pastos tiernos, they will take it, however, after having been driven and when very hungry. I find that the assertion is true that there is a zone of poor land on each side of the Salado. All the high lands here are excellent for agriculture and profitable for growing wheat and corn, but the freight would be heavy.

There are many azotea houses on the frontier which are perfectly safe, but there are many more such as ranchos and huts without even so much as a ditch for protection, and it is astonishing to me the Indians do not make frequent invasions and attack all those unprotected places. I think the Government should oblige every house or rancho to be surrounded by a fosse and have a corral made of sufficient capacity for whatever cattle there is on the place, and at each place there should be plenty of firearms.

One would suppose it would be to the interest of each individual to seek protection by a proper house to live in, and have it surrounded by a fosse, but I assure you there is most criminal neglect, and the Government, for the welfare of all, should oblige even the peones to be protected. A drawbridge for a fosse I see upon as a requisite.

Sleep out here are dearer than inside—\$30 is asked per head. I learn from people living outside of the zone of coarse land about the Salado that there is no necessity for the sheep to be acclimated.

KNICKERBOCKER.

SANTIAGO DEL ESTERO

In compliance with your request I remit a few notes on the Province in which I am settled, trusting they may be of interest to intending emigrants and others.

It seems that people have at last found out that the upper provinces may be good for something, and that money can be made here as well as in Buenos Ayres.

Capt. Page's and Mr. Hutchinson's wool gives a very coarse article, the province of Santiago del Estero. It lies between and on both sides of the rivers Dulce and Salado, the latter of which is in course of being made navigable down to Santa Fé, and the valley of the former will soon be rendered one of the finest grazing regions in the country.

The northern part of the province is not enticing to look upon, except on the margins of the two rivers, as it is covered with dense woods, offering but scanty pasture and little water; but going southwards the better becomes the camp, the woods open gradually, the pastures improve, until at last we find magnificent open plains, covered knee deep with trefoil, and dotted with 'isletas' of tall grass, and this scenery is prolonged, however, it is scanty population. Owing to the imbecility of former Governments, the Indians of the Gran Chaco drove the population to the northern parts; but under the firm arm of the present Government great progress has been made, and still more could have been done if the native estancieros would only take upon themselves to repel the straggling savages, who are far less formidable than the bush-rangers of Australia, rather than depend so helplessly on the Government.

The frontier is admirably guarded by Gen. Taboada, who has for years been steadily driving the Indians back, and checking every attempted incursion, until at last they have given it up for a bad job, finding Cordoba and Santa Fé much easier of access than any other occasionally. The consequence is that a large population is being pushed on rapidly, and within the last 4 months two new establishments have been formed outside mine, by foreigners, whom the Government assist in every way.

The lands on the frontier were sold some years ago at a nominal price, on condition that they should be populated. This being now a fact the Government has issued a decree, obliging the holders of such lands to populate them before the 1st of February, 1867, or their money will be returned, and the lands sold to parties who really will settle them.

A few of the present owners can conform with this, and thus the Government will have at its disposal large tracts of magnificent camp, and which I believe will be sold at about 100 to 120 Bolivian dollars per square league, to be populated within a reasonable period, the object being to induce immigration and industry.

To establish an estancia in Santiago is not expensive. Timber, for houses and corrales, abounds, and labor very cheap, the wages being only 2 reales per day with a modest fare of meat, corn, and salt, no yerba or caña; the peones, though not more active, are certainly more orderly than the general run in the lower provinces.

On the frontier spirituous liquors and gambling are strictly prohibited, the great advantage of everybody. The people are honest and hospitable. Crime is punished severely and immediately, so that robberies or murders are seldom heard of.

The price of cattle on an average is \$6, with 8 to \$10 for young cows; mares 5 to \$6, and tame horses from 8 to \$10; sheep about \$1 per head. The only breed of sheep here is the large long-wooled Pampa, with an average fleece of 4 and 5 lbs., rams and capones 7 to 8 and even 12 lbs., on good pasture.

The land in the vicinity of Carmen appears to be deteriorated, from overstocking and cropping, with the usual results—abrojo, caratilla, thistles, and other weeds making their appearance, and the catap weaving, as we heard of, and bare aspect it does not here. Suertes of estancia half a league river frontage, with 1 league in depth, can be bought near the town at from 30,000 to \$40,000 mpc; but the quality is not so good as that higher up, which, however, is in very few hands.

There are several large islands and peninsulas on the sea coast, from

per arr., but the Salado navigation will be completed before long, and in the meantime, when sufficient traffic is to be had on the frontier, a troop of carts can be despatched from here direct to the Parana, which thus would be only 8 days journey, instead of the tedious and circuitous route by Cordoba to Rosario.

Perhaps the most profitable enterprise in these parts is the mule trade. Mules are bought in Santa Fé and Entre Rios at from 5 to \$6, they are brought to Santiago, tamed, fattened on the 'algarroba,' and then sold to the Bolivian dealers at from 15 to \$20. The expenses incurred, including occasional losses, may be calculated at \$4 per head, thus leaving an average profit of 75 per cent.

Bahia Blanca to south of the Chupat; well adapted for sheep and cattle farming; and with liberal concessions from Government to foreign colonization companies, Patagonia would soon arrive at what she ought to be, viz., one of the chief producers of long wools on this continent.

Your obedient servant, HOLBERNESS. B. Ayres, March 16th.

THE STATE OF THE PORT.

The agents for the Astronomical line of steamers, and several British ship-masters lately waited upon by the Excellency, George Buckley Mathew, Esq., requesting him to make an appeal to the Government to clear the harbor of the wrecks which lie thickly in the outer roads. Mr. Mathew entered into the matter with his usual energy. We append a correspondence which ensued. We have not heard if the Government have taken any steps yet, but there is no moment to be lost.

Dr. Rufino Elizalde, Ministro de Foreign Affairs. British Legation, Feb. 9, 1867.

Monsieur le Ministre, I have been visited by a deputation from English shipping merchants and the Masters of English vessels of fifty which there are now upwards of fifty at anchor off Buenos Ayres, respecting the dangerous condition of both the outer and inner roads from the numerous wrecks and anchors which have been so long accumulated for years in lieu of being, as is usual, removed after each accident.

Your Excellency may not, possibly, be aware of the total loss within these few days of the fine English barque "Refect," while at anchor, in consequence of having drifted during the recent gale on one of these wrecks in the best part of the channel.

So unparalleled an occurrence cannot but create much alarm, and be productive of unfavorable impressions not only as regards the commercial facilities of Buenos Ayres, but as regards also the attention paid by the Government to commercial interests.

I feel well assured from my knowledge of the views and sentiments of the Government of which Your Excellency is a member, that it is merely necessary for me to solicit Your Excellency's co-operation in requesting their immediate notice to a subject of such deep importance to the best interests of the Republic, as connected with foreign commerce, to ensure a remedy.

It is one which so seriously affects British trade, by the dangers to which not only vessels, but the lives of H. M. subjects are exposed in the very haven where security should be enjoyed, that I do not doubt your Excellency and the Government will excuse the urgency of my language in bringing the matter before you.

I avail, &c., &c. (Signed) G. BUCKLEY MATHEW. Buenos Ayres, Feb. 21, 1867.

I have the honor to enclose for your cognizance the copy of a reply just received from His Excellency the Minister for Foreign Affairs, with regard to the state of the anchorage.

I entertain the hope that the subject will be taken up by the Government, and I shall not fail to avail myself of an early opportunity of again pressing it upon their notice.

I have the honor to be, Sir, Your most obedient servant, GEORGE BUCKLEY MATHEW, Foreign Department, B. Ayres, Feb. 21, 1867.

I have had the honor of receiving your Excellency's note of the 9th inst., in which you call my attention to the dangerous state of the anchorage of this port on account of wrecks and anchors which have accumulated during years past, in reference to the late wreck of the English barque Relect upon one of those dangers.

I have given immediate notice to the Minister of Marine of the indications which your Excellency's note contains, and I do not doubt that, in the interest and for the security of the foreign commerce of the Republic, he will give them his present attention.

I avail, &c., (Signed) RUFINO ELIZALDE, G. Buckley Mathew, Esq., C.B.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Mr. Washburn, it is said, will shortly return to the Brazilian encampment. The information which he imparted to the Brazilian commander amounts to very little. Mr. Cochet, the French Consul in Asuncion, is shortly expected down from Paraguay; he will be able to give interesting particulars respecting the real state of Paraguay.

The movements of President Mitre and Governor Flores are greatly watched by our political quidnances. It was rumored in town yesterday that President Mitre would shortly leave for headquarters at Tuyuti, and Gen. Flores for Cerro Largo, but we believe these are mere bores, and do not think it probable that the President will leave Buenos Ayres.

We believe there is nothing very authentic about the rumored Brazilian loan; in fact, from the general financial state of affairs, we regard it infinitely more probable that the Brazilians should borrow of us than lend. A new Brazilian loan in the English market, but according to our advice Baron Rothschild is opposed to it until the war be concluded and peace made.

There are still some hopes of our having a cotton crop, advice from Catamarca speak most favorably of the plantations in that Province; we sent up two sacks of Georgian seed about two years ago, and possibly the crop now sown of is from the seed, we have several sacks of seed at our office which we distribute gratis.

The school established by Sr. Iturralde in Vecino has been made by the Government a public school, and the Government has named a master. Sr. Iturralde merits the highest praise for his great public spirit in building this school.

Hermann the Wizard is 'low performing at the Brazilian encampment to crowded houses; he is making a fortune, a Tuyuti 'mosquito' newspaper has been started, and meets with good absorption; it makes great sport of Gally Obes and some other officers.

We are informed by a gentleman just come from the south that the state of the country is by no means bad. A seca, it is true, is imminent, but on some estancias the lagunas are far from drying up. Hitherto there have been no losses south of Dolores, and if we have rain in the course of the week all fears of a seca this season will pass away. Grass in abundance could be seen in many places, and the only apprehension was the drying up of the lagunas.

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MUTINY ON BOARD THE CHACABUCO

NARROW ESCAPE OF AN ENGLISHMAN. FULL PARTICULARS FROM AN EYE-WITNESS. Rosario, March 17.

Again in difficulties, and at this time we are grateful that life has been spared us. On the 8th inst. the Chacabuco, with 200 soldiers on board, came alongside of our ship, the Prince Albert, and at two o'clock, she taking us in tow, we proceeded on our course up the river. Three or four leagues above Esquina, at about 10 p.m. on the night of the 15th, we came to an anchor, and about 11 p.m. Mr. Wilder and I turned into our hammocks which were swung on deck. At 1 o'clock on the morning of the 16th we were aroused from our slumbers by the noise of firing of guns, clashing of swords, and shouting of men. I jumped out of my hammock to ascertain the cause of the din, and you may imagine my surprise on finding that the soldiers on board the Chacabuco

had mutinied and were shooting and cutting at everybody they could find. The officers finding that they could not subdue them made good their escape by jumping overboard and swimming for shore. The rebels afterwards boarded masters of the Chacabuco, and we being both inferior in men and arms made for the cabin and fortified ourselves in it.

Not wishing to be banked of their prey the mutineers got up upon the cabin and commenced firing on us through the skylight, winding Mr. Wilder in the hand and the steward in the chest, the latter so dangerously that he is not expected to live.

These unusual demonstrations caused much surprise, and their every movement was anxiously watched by us all. For some time past rumors of peace were current, and all were trying to catch the least word that could confirm them, but the greatest caution was everywhere observed, and up to the present nothing has divulged to show the least light on the matter.

On the evening of the 12th the enemy sent an officer across the lines with a white flag. He was at once taken to the tent of Caxias, and his business enquired, when he stated that the American Minister wished to cross the lines to send some despatches to his Government and also to get some newspapers.

As yet I cannot say the exact sum we lost, but the cash to myself amounts to £70, to Mr. Wilder £35, and to the captain £250, the whole of which I have no doubt will be refunded.

The large, ugly-looking Government-house is now being pulled down, and a handsome two-story building is to be built in its place, at a cost of about thirty-five thousand dollars.

The Californian settlers of the Chaco, desirous of showing the Governor the progress they are making, commissioned Mr. McLean to transmit a formal invitation to Mr. Orozio to visit their Colony.

At Fernando's we stopped three nights and two days, and then started on for D. Henriquez, which is on the land in the name of Daniel Burke on the map, and from there we came here, but not being able to find the landmarks we went to Chiriqui Lofu, which you will find on the map in Raparal land; the same afternoon we went to Godoy's house, which is an azotea of two stories surrounded by a fosse. Chiriqui Lofu is one of the Fortines.

The first night, while at Godoy's, we heard three guns fired from the fortin, which means 'que hay novedad de Indios.' Our first care was to secure as many of the horses as possible inside of the fosse, tie up some others close to it, and put the remainder in the cor

THE FESTIVITIES AT SAN JOSE.

1ST DAY. San José, March 20th, 1867.

In the midst of an unprecedented scene of bustle and festivity I shut myself up for an hour or two to describe the splendid celebrations of which the princely residence of General Urquiza is at present the scene.

Nothing of the kind, certainly, has ever before been seen in South America, and even in Europe such a gathering would be rarely equalled.

The preparations were on a scale of gigantic hospitality, and before my arrival I heard that no fewer than two thousand guests were expected, but the 'fetes' has far surpassed all anticipations.

The fetes began on Monday, and all day long from before daybreak the vehicles of Concepcion were conveying the guests to San José, while the county-people and some English estancieros came from all sides on horseback.

At 5 p.m., in company with the Messrs. Victoria, I left Concepcion: at the half-way house (3 leagues) we changed horses, and while doing so were overtaken by six other carriages.

Within a league of San José we could descry the rockets and the soldiers' camp-fires. On our arrival it was a clear moonlight night, and we could see a host of tents and coaches to the right of the palace.

The entrance was surrounded by groups of countrymen, civilians, soldiers, &c. Passing into the first courtyard we found officers and youths hurrying hither and thither: every room was crowded with gentlemen dressing for the ball.

With some difficulty we made a hasty toilette, and proceeded to salute the General and his lady, and offer the usual compliments. The General looked as young and vigorous as ever, and was in excellent spirits: I found him conversing with General Borjes and Colonel Mundell, who had accompanied General Flores on Sunday from Paysandú to Santa Candida to salute General Urquiza, and were now his guests, although of opposite political color.

The gardens were crowded with hundreds of young ladies, dressed in all the elegance of a tournament at Compiegne, or a ball at St. James's. Consul Hutchinson declared to me he never before saw such a display of youth, beauty and fashion: in fact the scene was so dazzling as to make one fancy it a dream or fairy tale.

The palace and grounds are in a style of mediocrity and magnificence, and with such a brilliant company the effect was indescribable. Two military bands played at intervals select Italian airs, and after roaming about the gardens for some time we were summoned by beat of drum to the fireworks.

There was a number of elegant devices in pyrotechnics, and a variety of colored lights, lasting about half an hour. Supper was served in the spacious dining-hall, the guests taking in rotation, a hundred at each table. Meantime when the ladies had concluded, the orchestra struck up the signal for dancing: The inner court-yard was splendidly fitted up as a ball-room: a hundred Chinese lanterns were hung from the awning, and the floor was thickly carpeted.

The spectators remained in the colonnade surrounding the patio, and polkas, mazurkas, quadrilles and lancers succeeded each other with unflagging zest. It was very pretty to see forty couples going through the lancers; with all the precision of troops on parade.

appearance, being equipped in first-rate style. They halt at the chapel and draw up on either side of the gateway. Before descending from the 'mirador' my attention is arrested by the strange spectacle of a vessel in full sail coming along the road, from Concepcion; which ultimately proved to be a schooner on wheels, drawn by horses, and manned by Basques coming to salute the General.

Soon after we had another visit of a band of music from Gualeguay on the same mission. He had established his quarters alongside the billiard-room, and his wife in the ladies' department, were kept busy; at the hour approached for the commencement of the days' fête.

As the turret clock struck nine, we formed in procession and marched around to the chapel: this is one of the most beautiful works of art in the continent, the General having, moreover, expended large sums of money on the altar service and internal decorations. There was barely room for the ladies inside and a dozen gentlemen.

High Mass was sung by Revs. Messrs. Aparicio and Doland, the choir being composed of Mdles. Urquiza, Dominguez, Captain Calvo, Mr. Charles Leist, &c. After the Gospel, the Very Rev. Dean Alvarez, of Paraná, pronounced an eloquent and appropriate sermon on the life of St. Joseph.

At the conclusion of Mass we had a christening. The infant son of the General, about three months old, was presented at the baptismal font by Governor Dominguez and Mme. Mercedes Costa de Montandon (the sister name of General Urquiza).

At sundown fresh batches of visitors arrived, to salute the General: among these were the Estudiantina, a volunteer band from the town. They struck up the Argentine anthem, and we all joined in a chorus of several hundred voices.

Dancing began at 9 o'clock and was kept up with great spirit till 1 a.m. when supper was served. At 3 o'clock we were all fairly beaten up, and the fetes concluded. Some of the guests at once started for town, but most remained till next day.

Thursday was the day of farewell, and certainly everyone felt it a pity the happy hours had passed so fleetly. Mme. Urquiza and the General seemed greatly pleased with the way the 'fetes' passed off. There was not the least 'contre-temps,' not even an excess in drinking, among so vast an assemblage.

Those who assisted at the 'fetes' will remember them as long as they live. The splendor and outlay would dazzle anyone: it is said the General has expended over £20,000 sterling on the occasion. In the days of Lorenzo the Magnificent they may have had such festivities on the banks of the Arno, or the Princess Dagmar's 'marriage-fetes' recently at St. Petersburg may have even been more brilliant.

But such a reunion of birth and magnificence, such an effusion of kindly sentiments at a family gathering which comprised thousands, formed a 'toute-ensemble' that it would be difficult to surpass. It is almost superfluous for me to return thanks to the General and Mme. Urquiza, but I shall certainly look forward with pleasure to the same anniversary next year, for which all the guests have been invited. There will be in Easter week a grand ball given by the town of Concepcion to the General in return for the fetes of San José.

ON 'CHANGE. Fixed price of Ounces \$400. Thursday 126,000. Friday 126,000. Saturday 126,000. Sunday 126,000. Exchange on Rio done to-day at 33-500.

At 2 p.m. the guests sat down to dinner, the tables being served up in the same splendid style as before. This day General Urquiza himself gave the first toast— "Gentlemen, the motto I have placed over my door is 'Paz, Union, Fraternalidad,' and I earnestly hope that it may speedily become a reality in the other Argentine Provinces as it is happily now in Entre-Rios. Instead of Argentines slaying their brethren as at present with lance and spear, may they soon offer to each other the olive-branch of peace."

(Long and enthusiastic applause.) Several toasts followed, to Governor Dominguez and his Ministers, to the family of General Urquiza, to the pacification of La Plata, &c. Dr. Victoria proposed the foreign residents, and made a flattering allusion to the Standard as "the best friend of Argentine progress."

Consul Hutchinson replied on the part of the foreign guests, and Dr. Lorenzo Torres proposed "the ladies" in a very amusing strain of eloquence. Before leaving the table, Gen. Urquiza took his glass and again thanked the Foreign Residents in most complimentary terms.

Some photographic views were taken of the banquet &c. After dinner there were races by the 'paisanos,' and playing 'sortija.' The quantity of silver trappings on the horses was prodigious. Comandante Gallo had spurs that weighed 16 lbs. each, and his outfit is said to represent the enormous sum of £300 sterling.

Several of the paisanos laid sovereigns for buttons on their jackets. The display was altogether very striking and the sport good. At sundown fresh batches of visitors arrived, to salute the General: among these were the Estudiantina, a volunteer band from the town. They struck up the Argentine anthem, and we all joined in a chorus of several hundred voices.

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Exchange on Rio done to-day at 33-500. The Templer and British brig Molta, from Buenos Ayres, have arrived at New York.

The unexampled rise lately experienced may in some measure explain the cause of the present weakness in these securities, as those who had bought cheap wished to realize with profit. But the same arguments that we have previously used as to the advantage of buying these securities as investment still hold good, and should the price decline, as they may, we anticipate that the public will buy largely. It is in the interest of the brokers that the Bonds should fluctuate, so the public must not be astonished at the ups and downs of these securities.

Of one fact every one should be convinced, and that is the Public Funds are really worth 65, or nothing at all. The sales to-day were as follows: Total cash, 71,000.

The National Bonds market was quieter to-day. Many parties who had bought at low prices realized, and we noticed a far better tone in the market than yesterday; there were bona fide buyers at 54, as there were bona fide sellers at the same price. The brokers were held aloof from the business, and watched attentively the aspect of affairs.

At sundown fresh batches of visitors arrived, to salute the General: among these were the Estudiantina, a volunteer band from the town. They struck up the Argentine anthem, and we all joined in a chorus of several hundred voices.

Dancing began at 9 o'clock and was kept up with great spirit till 1 a.m. when supper was served. At 3 o'clock we were all fairly beaten up, and the fetes concluded. Some of the guests at once started for town, but most remained till next day.

Thursday was the day of farewell, and certainly everyone felt it a pity the happy hours had passed so fleetly. Mme. Urquiza and the General seemed greatly pleased with the way the 'fetes' passed off. There was not the least 'contre-temps,' not even an excess in drinking, among so vast an assemblage.

Those who assisted at the 'fetes' will remember them as long as they live. The splendor and outlay would dazzle anyone: it is said the General has expended over £20,000 sterling on the occasion. In the days of Lorenzo the Magnificent they may have had such festivities on the banks of the Arno, or the Princess Dagmar's 'marriage-fetes' recently at St. Petersburg may have even been more brilliant.

But such a reunion of birth and magnificence, such an effusion of kindly sentiments at a family gathering which comprised thousands, formed a 'toute-ensemble' that it would be difficult to surpass. It is almost superfluous for me to return thanks to the General and Mme. Urquiza, but I shall certainly look forward with pleasure to the same anniversary next year, for which all the guests have been invited. There will be in Easter week a grand ball given by the town of Concepcion to the General in return for the fetes of San José.

ON 'CHANGE. Fixed price of Ounces \$400. Thursday 126,000. Friday 126,000. Saturday 126,000. Sunday 126,000. Exchange on Rio done to-day at 33-500.

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SHIPS IN THE PORT OF BUENOS AYRES.

Table listing ships with columns for Name, Tonnage, Arrival, and Consignee. Includes ships like 'Alfonso,' 'Alfonso,' 'Alfonso,' etc.

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