

THE WEEKLY STANDARD

Published every Wednesday at the "Standard" printing-office. Subscription \$20 per month. Single copies \$5.
Advertisements received until 3 p. m. on Tuesday: not exceeding 6 lines, inserted for \$20—Calle Belgrano, 74.

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

NO 327—SEVENTH YEAR.

BUENOS AYRES, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 14, 1867.

CIRCULATION 2,500.

THE WAR IN THE NORTH.

It requires no ordinary sagacity, no common judgment, to properly estimate the last move of the allies. We are all anxiously awaiting the arrival of the steamer, with tidings of victory, and it may seem at such a moment an ungenerous task to dissect the army correspondence at hand and show the real state of things in Paraguay; but an impartial journalist has a far nobler mission and higher call than to pander to popular prejudice or join with the vulgar in judging every move by its success. Doubtless, if adverse news arrives, Caxias and Osorio will come in for a full mete of censure, and the River Plate public will stamp them as two of the most bungling generals ever heard of; whilst on the other hand, if victory is announced, the cocked hat of Caxias will command the admiration of South America.

Personal predilections and national hostilities have such complete sway that it is almost impossible to calmly contemplate the Paraguayan question. We despise the enemy, and we admire the allies, simply because obedient to our feelings, and we believe because we wish to believe all the stories that come to us from headquarters depicting Paraguayan misery and the immense resources of the allies; but had we a Napier at headquarters to dispassionately chronicle events as they occur, a man master of military science and an eye-witness of what was passing, we fear indeed we should form a very different opinion of the relative position of the belligerents.

The enemy, who have endured a close blockade for now over two and a-half years, still fights with firearms, and mounts batteries at every hill-top. Since the flank movement at Tuyuti we hear more of Paraguayans clearing out on the approach of the vanguard than anything else. A small fight has occurred at a pass over a stream, but the Paraguayans were at once routed and killed. The depositions of deserters and prisoners are so far relied on that they find place in all the newspapers; and, in fact, without the least topographical acquaintance of the country in which the allies are marching, we have all convinced ourselves that Lopez is hermetically shut up in Humaita, cut off from supplies, and obliged to stand a siege.

But we have no hesitation in saying that this conclusion is premature. Until the squadron first passes Humaita, and even then, the line the allies have to protect—from the Paraguay to the Parana—is so extended that it would require 200,000 men to attempt such a siege. The Paraguayans are a wily foe, and will not be slow to find points where the lines can be pierced without loss.

The flank movement of Caxias is not unlike that of the allies in 1865, when they determined to turn the right flank of the French, and thus cut Napoleon off from Vienna and force him back on the bleak mountains of Bohemia. Osorio at Nembucu occupies a position identical with Doctoroff on that memorable day. The main Austrian and Russian army held the heights of Pratzon, and were drawn up in front of the enemy the same as Caxias at San Solano. 80,000 men had effected this celebrated flank movement, and the French were hemmed in at Brunn. President Mitre cannot have forgotten Napoleon's memorable words to Soult on the day of the battle. "When the enemy is making a false movement, we must take good care not to interrupt them."

The position of Lopez must to all who have the slightest pretention to military science and tactics, appear far less exposed than that of the allies; in fact the whole fate of the war seems to hang on the squadron passing up, for if the iron-clads fail in the attempt the allies in order to keep themselves from being cut off from supplies must fall back on the banks of the Parana, and from what we read of the roads we should say that a day's rain would prove a greater aid to Lopez than all the guns at Tuyuti.

It is a great mistake to suppose that the allies when they made this flank movement ever intended to attack Lopez; nothing of the kind, the march was ordered merely to cut Lopez off from his supplies. It appears to have been well and cautiously planned, and

up to the present carried out; but so long as Lopez checkmates the fleet at Humaita he holds the Paraguayan river open to draw what supplies he may need. Once passed Humaita the fleet can ascend and dominate the river; the Paraguayans will be then forced to attack Caxias or Porto Alegre, and the fight then decides the fate of the campaign.

The truth be told, we see very little military genius shining forth on either side. The campaign now affords more scope than when the soldiers were penned up behind ditches, and perhaps some Wellington or Napoleon may start from the ranks.

HINTS TO FARMERS.

EXTRACTS FROM THE U. S. AGRICULTURAL REPORT FOR 1864.

The interest that is now being manifested, and the largely increased attention given to sheep husbandry, in a great portion of our country, has created an unprecedented demand for thorough-bred Spanish sheep, and prices have risen with the demand, till many call the present awakened interest in the business the "sheep mania," and hint of the "hen fever" and "morbus multicaulis" times, predicting that the same fate awaits this enterprise.

Ten dollars per head is now paid for the service of some of the first class rams in Vermont, and hundreds of applicants are refused even at these terms. Some breeders, not over-enthusiastic men either, confidently believe that the time is not very distant when one hundred dollars will be paid for the same service. It has now become a serious question with many men whether such a demand and such prices can continue. Thirty five years ago first-class merino rams could be bought for ten dollars per head. Old ewes, culls, sold in the autumn for three dollars per head. At this time native sheep sold for one dollar and twenty five cents. As the prices of the merinos gradually increased, till culls sold for five dollars and an extra ram for fifteen, there were plenty of men who said such prices could not continue—men buying sheep at such figures must fail. The wise prophets of that day held on to their native sheep, and in many instances are holding on to them still, contented to clip four pounds of wool per head, and to sell their surplus stock in the autumn at three and four dollars, while their neighbors, who went into the "ruinous speculation" of fine woolled sheep twenty five years ago, now clip from eight to ten pounds of wool from their ewes, and from fifteen to twenty five pounds from their rams, and sell all the stock they will let go from their flocks at prices which would severely tax the credulity of a man not acquainted with the business. This experience of the last quarter of a century will form a very reliable basis on which to base a calculation relative to the future.

The fact that the Spanish merino now stands at the head of all other classes of sheep, as regards quantity and quality of wool, may be regarded as established beyond all question.

But there are other considerations which may strengthen the faith of the wavering and encourage the hearts of the doubting. When the cotton-growing States of the south produced three hundred and fifty thousand bales in a single year, men of foresight and sagacity hesitated about making further investments in cotton lands and negroes, through the fear that the markets for the world could never demand more of this article than was already produced. But from that three hundred and fifty thousand the country went on producing till the yield reached six million bales, and yet the market was not glutted, and cotton growing was one of the most profitable branches of industry in the country. The condition of cotton-growing in those days, when men were doubtful of its future, was not unlike the present condition of the wool growing business.

There have always been some men like the narrow-minded John Randolph, who have been ready at all times "to go a mile to kick a sheep;"

yet in every age, from the earliest beginning of civilization to the present day, sheep have always held a high place in the estimation of those best qualified to judge of the sources of a nation's wealth.

The effect of in-and-in breeding our sheep has been the theme of considerable public discussion. It is said to be proper to speak well of a bridge which has carried you safe over. The Spaniards never went out of the flock for rams. To this extent Colonel Humphrey's sheep, prior to their importation, had been bred in-and-in for centuries. Colonel Humphrey and Mr. Atwood pursued the same course, and their breeding was still closer, as their flocks were smaller. As already remarked, others as well as myself (Mr. Sanford, of Orwell, Vermont) have continued this system in Vermont. There is not a flock of pure-bred Infantados in the State, or elsewhere, which is not closely bred. It will be seen that the in-and-in breeding of sheep does not hinder improvement, or induce degeneracy or decay.

The successful breeder must have a fixed and uniform standard of excellence, and pursue it with a single eye, and with the best materials within his reach, without regard to theories which experience proves to be false and worthless. He who looks at theories instead of facts, and who veers about, now using a ram of one stamp, and now of another, to escape some imaginary danger, will never climb high in this pursuit.

In 1863 the home product of wool in the loyal States was 77,413,070 pounds; imports 64,433,760 pounds. The imports of wools amounted to the value of between twenty four million and twenty five million dollars.

If the pasture to which fifty sheep are allotted for their summer's fare can be divided into two lots, and the flock put into each every alternate week, they will flourish much better than if allowed free range of the whole.

Six or eight ewes in a day is as many as one ram ought to be allowed to serve when he has the very best of care; with a less number his chances for giving good stock would be much increased.

Lambs should be docked when about ten days old.

So far the Agricultural Report.

As an instance of how agriculture is encouraged and protected by the government of the United States I may mention the fact of the members of Congress distributing in 1863 more than half a million packages of seeds, while an equal number were distributed by the Commissioner through other channels. It will be remembered that while these members of Congress were thus occupied in distributing seeds, their country was bleeding at every pore, and yet these worthy representatives of a great nation found time to think of the agriculturist while grappling with rebellion, to distribute seeds with one hand and with the other swords and rifles.

How many packages of seeds, might I ask, did the members of the Argentine Congress distribute in time of peace, or in war times? In almost every session of parliament there is something quoted about the United States, an attempt to imitate the laws, customs &c. of that country; but, I fear the attempt is the most practical part of the imitation.

DICK.

THE VICTIMS OF QUERETARO.

GENERALS MIRAMON AND MEJIA

It is remarkable that the article in our paper on the Death of Maximilian appeared on June 28th, and the unfortunate prince was shot at Queretaro just nine days before: our news, therefore, was premature, but in some manner prophetic, and in fact, when writing the article alluded to, we had not a shadow of doubt as to its truth, although strictly speaking it was then an unfounded rumor. On that occasion we gave a brief sketch of the eventful and ill-fated career of the Emperor Maximilian, whose virtues and magnanimity have lent unprecedented lustre to the imperial house of Hapsburg, and whose heroic death throws into the shade the names of many royal martyrs of ancient or modern times. We now copy from the

Invalido Argentino the following interesting memoirs of the two faithful generals who stood by Maximilian in his hour of trial and died by his side like brave soldiers.

Miguel Miramon received his military education at the college of Chapultepec. In 1856 he declared himself in opposition to Comonfort, but the latter pardoned him and attached him to his staff. Comonfort being betrayed by his friends was driven from power, and Benito Juarez, President of the Supreme Court, assumed the Government. The clergy pronounced against Juarez, electing Zuloaga as President, with Miramon for commander-in-chief; the latter soon gained great popularity by his courage and tact in several successful engagements. Zuloaga grew hateful by his wavering conduct, and was quickly removed to make room for Miramon, who entered Mexico, robbed the British Consulate, contracted the Jecker loan, and carried things with a high hand. On the 31st August 1860, Juarez got possession of Mexico, and the alliance of France, England, and Spain ensued. Miramon proceeded to Europe and labored for the election of a European prince, but on the accession of Maximilian the presence of Miramon was considered dangerous, and he was at first kept in exile at Havana, but ultimately allowed to enter the imperial service. Miramon was of medium height, delicate in appearance, with fair hair and blue eyes, hasty in temper, but of very polite demeanor. It is related of him that before he had yet gained his epaulets of Colonel he became desperately enamored of a handsome Mexican heiress; she received his suit but declined to become his wife till he should win the rank of General. This suited his ambitious spirit, and when at length he reached the coveted dignity and laid his sword at the damsel's feet she again rose in her demand and insisted on his first attaining the supreme chair of President. His passion only increased with the lady's ambition, and he soon won both her hand and the fatal distinction of President of Mexico. This romantic episode explains the career of this remarkable man.

Thomas Mejia was of pure Indian blood and claimed direct lineal descent from the Aztec Emperors of Mexico: he was always most popular among the Indian classes, and stood foremost as a soldier and statesman among the conservative party. He lived usually in a retired farm in the mountains, but kept a close watch on the current of political events. He was the finest horseman and cavalry officer in Mexico: he only wanted a proper education to be able to lead his warlike Indian countrymen from victory to victory, but he preferred exercising his influence as a political leader. He was of a kindly but impetuous disposition, gentle and familiar to all classes, and much liked by the clergy for his rigid piety. Those who have heard him narrate his own history say it was a romance of thrilling interest from beginning to end.

THE DEATH OF MAXIMILIAN.

(COMMUNICATED)

If we are to judge by the tone of the European Press deep has been the impression produced throughout the Old World by the news of the shooting of Maximilian, so-called Emperor of Mexico, and loud is the universal condemnation of an act whose perpetrators are styled "barbarians" and accused of setting at nought the commonest principles of humanity, the first laws of civilization. Yet, if we examine the question now before us with due calmness and impartiality, if we cast off from us all that sympathy which the tragical fate of the Usurper is calculated to inspire in the minds of those who are accustomed to reverence Royalty and admire monarchical forms of Government, if we do all this and judge of the case merely on its merits, uninfluenced by any feeling save that of its justice or injustice, unbiassed by any political prejudice, we must faintly admit that the untimely end of the Emperor, divested of that sombre tint of martyrdom wrongly attributed to it, appears to us as the exemplary chastisement of an attempt to establish on American soil a system of

Government in direct opposition to that sentiment of Liberty innate to the inhabitants of the New World.

Viewed in this light, the act we now examine is one of the most important for the cause of Democracy, being fraught with a deep meaning which will deter for at least some time to come any repetition of the endeavor to raise in America the gaudy banner of Monarchy; and importing, besides, a solemn assertion of the Monroe doctrine.

With the remembrance of a famous Edict so lately issued by the now defunct Ex-arch of Napoleon, ordering that "all Mexicans taken in arms should be summarily executed as bandits"—still fresh in our memories. Can we with any show of reason condemn the Republicans for having after a fair trial enforced the 'Lex talionis' on the person of one whose unwelcome presence has brought more and more serious evil to Mexico than all her revolutions combined? Can we blame the inhabitants of that unfortunate land for exhibiting a spirit of vindictiveness towards those who have treated them as felons because they defouted their country's cause against a foreign Ruler, whose position at the head of an Imperial Government, supported by French bayonets, restrained their liberty and even menaced their Independence. No! the disinterested patriotism so nobly displayed against the armed power of Maximilian only merits the greatest praise.

Unfortunately, however, so perverted is the spirit of Justice in this country, so accustomed are we to witnessing the escape of criminals unpunished, while their tools suffer for their sins on the scaffold, that we should not be surprised that when one is at last made an example of, it should cause a feeling of horror and wonder commingled in the public mind. Thus it is that while the Usurper's fate is commiserated, no sympathy is evinced for those whose lives have been cast away as dross to satisfy his ambition and the designs of an unscrupulous despot.

It is indeed calculated to excite a feeling of misanthropy when we consider the many instances of misplaced sympathy daily occurring before us. Abundant tears of sorrow are shed over the Imperial tomb, but none moisten with gentle dew the blood-impregnated battle-fields of Puebla, Oajaca, and a hundred more, on which lie bleaching the bones of so many of those who have died for their country and their country's cause.

One thought, notwithstanding, serves to console us, it is, that Monarchs may profit by the fate of Maximilian, and learn that ill-fares it with those who would dare to overthrow from her throne the Goddess of Liberty in a country whose children would rather die than allow to be wrested from them that Independence and freedom which, forming part as it were of their very existence, fills their souls with the most noble enthusiasm, the most exalted self-abnegation.

THE WOOL TRADE.

We regret to say that the advices received per Quito respecting wool are of a most unfavorable nature. The European wool-markets keep falling, and the matter although of the most serious moment for this country, is never even mooted in Congress or the Chambers. So gloomy are the prospects that it is said with some show of foundation that although the increase of sheep in this country for this year alone amounts to fifteen millions, yet it will take about half the amount required in former years to buy the coming clip in the Plata. The only relief that can be afforded the farmers is to strike off the export duty, of which there is as much chance as to get our streets paved or the free and enlightened citizens supplied with fresh water. Never before do we recollect things so monstrously out of joint in the Plata as at present. Yesterday some good mestiza flocks were sold in the South at \$15 and \$19, and yet on the same day and at the same hour a lot of young lambs for the market fetched \$25. We should like our talented Minister of Finance to study this anomaly.

THE QUITO'S MAILS.

IMPORTANT FROM EUROPE.

The splendid British steamer Quito, built for the Chilian trade, arrived at Montevideo on the 8th inst., at 10 a.m., having made a good run out to the Plate. We have received by her, from Messrs. Stolterfoht & Co., Liverpool, the *Daily Courier* and *The European Times* of 9th July; and from a friend in Montevideo two copies of the *Times* of 9th July, and the *Manchester Guardian* of 10th July.

Liverpool, July 10, 1867.

The Reform Bill drags its slow length along. Mr. Horsfall's motion for giving an additional member to Liverpool, Manchester, and Birmingham, was a success, and subsequently the Committee extended the same privilege to Leeds; but denied it to Sheffield and Bristol.

The Viceroy of Egypt is to be housed, it appears, under the roof of Lord Dudley. It was originally intended to place him in Buckingham Palace, but as it is undergoing repairs to fit it for the reception of the Sultan, this idea was abandoned, and it was arranged that he should take up his quarters at a West-end hotel, there being no royal palace available. His Highness will, doubtless, be very comfortable with a rich noble for his host; but as the Pasha's hospitality to Englishmen when they visit the country of the Nile has always been princely, the way in which he has been handed about from "post to pillar" has provoked a good deal of invidious criticism. The Viceroy arrived in London on the 16th, and was received by some members of the Queen's household, but it was remarked that no member of the Royal Family was present to welcome him.

Earl Cowley is about to cease to represent England at the Court of the Tuileries. A grand farewell dinner was given to him on the 4th, at which most of the ambassadors in Paris were present. The French Minister spoke in the highest terms of Lord Cowley, as did also the Papal Nuncio; and Earl Cowley, as in duty bound, warmly praised the policy of the Emperor.

If the Hyde-park review had been carried out, it would have been graced by the presence of the Princess of Wales. Every one will be delighted to learn that her health has been so far restored that she can contemplate such an exertion. According to the Prime Minister in one House and the Chancellor of the Exchequer in the other, the postponement will not be very protracted, and the disappointment only temporary.

The disclosures at Sheffield continue to horrify the public. The immunity from punishment held out to the perpetrators by the Commissioners, on the sole condition of their telling the truth, has made some of these wretches bold and unblushing in the acknowledgment of their infamies. Assassinations and attempts at assassinations—the blowing-up of houses by gunpowder in which lived persons who had given real or imaginary offence to the leaders of the trades' unions—these crimes, paid for in hard cash, like any ordinary affair of barter or sale, have come out in a way which has shocked every community in the kingdom.

The returns of emigration from Liverpool show a large decrease. In the quarter ending with the close of June there was a decrease of 6000 who have left the port, compared with the corresponding quarter of last year. It will be found, we believe, in future, that this decrease will become larger in every subsequent quarter and year.

The Monetary Conference at Paris has agreed, according to accounts from Berlin, to recommend throughout Europe a standard currency of gold, the smallest piece to represent five francs, and all other, gold pieces a multiple of five. Silver coin is to be used only as change. It may be mentioned at the same time that the Prussian proposals for the re-constitution of the Zollverein have been accepted by all the States concerned, and the final draft of the new treaty will be speedily drawn up.

MONETARY & COMMERCIAL.

The *Times* say, the English Funds yesterday experienced a further advance of a $\frac{1}{2}$, at which the market closed with a steady appearance. Anticipations as to the effect to be produced this week by the payment of the dividends was the chief cause of the improvement. The discount demanded at the Bank was very light and in the Stock Exchange loans were freely offered at $\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 per cent. The suspension of Messrs. Mellor and Southall, merchants, of Liverpool, is announced.

The *Daily News* says the question of an early reduction in the bank rate of discount to 2 per cent. is once more being discussed. The amount of the dividends payable to-day on Consols and the Government stocks is about £6,000,000 standing, without reckoning the dividends on the India Five per cent. Stock, and numerous other securities due at this period.

On the 3rd, adjudication of bankruptcy was made in the London Court against Sir Morton Peto, Bart., M.P., Edward Ladd Bétts, and Thomas Russell Crampton, described as contractors, of Great George street, Westminster. The adjudication was made on the petition of Mr. Warden, of the Railway Iron Works, Edgbaston, near Birmingham, the act of bankruptcy being a declaration of insolvency. The bankruptcy has been rendered unavoidable by the extraordinary claim just set up by the directors of the London, Chatham, and Dover Company.

The London and Brazilian Bank is unable to declare any dividend for the half-year ending December last. The balance to the credit of profit and loss account is £3898 17s. 5d.—The West of England and South Wales District Bank have announced a dividend for the past half-year at the rate of 8 per cent. per annum, free of income-tax. The directors of the North-Western Bank (Limited) have declared a dividend at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum, payable on the 18th inst.

The failure of the firm of Messrs. W. Brunner and Co. of New York, with establishments here and at Bradford, was announced to-day.

Since the 7th June, the shipments to the various ports of the Brazils have barely been up to an average, particularly in cotton and woollen goods. Buenos Ayres, Valparaiso and Callao, show the greatest activity, there having been large shipments made during the past month. To the River Plate there is an increase on the six months in value of £134,359. The west coast trade shows the greatest activity, and there has been a large quantity of goods of all kinds going forward particularly to Valparaiso, which shows the very large increase of £800,301 in total value of goods of all kinds exported during the past six months, as compared with same time last year. To Lima, the increase in the same period is £141,196.

Freights outwards continue dull both for coals and general cargo to nearly all the Brazil and River Plate ports. Vessels on the berth for Rio and the Plate, are accepting very low rates for both rough and fine cargo. The steamers for these ports do not fill with fine goods, and consequently take whatever they can get in the way of rough cargo at moderate rates. Rates outwards for coals are almost nominal.

THE PAPAL STATES.

Rome, July 1.

The Pope received an address this morning from 490 bishops, to which His Holiness replied, thanking the prelates, and expressing his satisfaction at the address.

The Pope also received at St. Peter's a deputation from 100 Italian towns. Count Boschetti read a speech, to which the Pope replied in touching terms.

A grand fête was given to-day at the Villa Borghese, at which an immense number of guests were present. Perfect tranquillity prevails the city.

July 2.

The Pope now enjoys excellent health, and will proceed at the end of July to Castel Gondolfo.

Brigands have again made their appearance on Monte Lepini.

Desertions continued to occur from the ranks of the Antibes Legion.

Cholera is gradually increasing here. The address presented yesterday by 490 bishops to the Pope, in reply to his Allocution, attests their entire obedience to His Holiness, and declares that they believe and teach what he believes and teaches. The bishops thanked the Pope for his solicitude in endeavouring to preserve intact public morality, to resist dangerous machinations, and to confound error, and expressed the wish that the voice of the Pontiff may lead those who are erring back to the good path.

The address proceeds to speak of the admirable harmony of the Christian nations rallying round the Papal chair, and expresses joy at the proclamation of the speedy assembly of an Ecumenical Council, from which the bishops expect abundant fruits.

It concludes by declaring that neither princes nor nations will permit the rights or authority of the Pope to be ignored.

In reply to the address which has been presented to the Pope by the deputation from the Italian towns,

His Holiness declared that he had always aided Italy, but in such a manner only as was in accordance with her true interests, and he hoped that those who dispose of her destinies will save the common Fatherland from moral and religious ruin.

The Pope has again received a number of Catholics of various nationalities, to whom he made a speech in the French language.

His words were greeted with enthusiasm.

THE CRETAN INSURRECTION.

Marseilles, July 2.

Intelligence received here from Athens to the 27th ult. states that the Arkadi has accomplished her 14th voyage to Candia. She landed 500 volunteers, 2,000 muskets, and a quantity of military supplies, provisions, and clothes. Four Turkish steamers attempted to cut her off, but she escaped, returned to Candia, and finished landing her cargo. Upon the Arkadi quitting the island she was pursued by eight Turkish ships, which she succeeded in evading and returned to Syra. She was again about to leave for Candia.

Accounts from the island state that Omar Pasha was preparing to attack the district of Sphakia.

Two notorious brigands; Kitzos and Lafafizani, had been killed near Athens by Greek troops.

UNITED STATES.

New York, 29th June.

General Ord has modified the regulations for registration in his district, in conformity with the opinion of the Attorney General.

It is reported that President Johnson is about to remove General Sheridan, and appoint General Rousseau his successor.

General Sickles has seized the savings bank at Charleston for refusing to pay interest on the deposits of the national soldiers before the war.

The Surratt trial is drawing to a close. The evidence latterly had been principally a rehearsal of the evidence on the trial of Mrs. Surratt.

Judge Payne Harrold, and the majority of the New York Constitutional Convention, have reported a bill opposing female and favouring negro suffrage.

The presidential party have been enthusiastically welcomed at New-haven. They made only a brief stoppage at New York, but did not stop at Philadelphia, and arrived at Baltimore yesterday, where they were cordially welcomed by the state municipal authorities and the people. President Johnson made a brief speech, stating that the reception he had recently received convinced him of the approach of the era of reconciliation and good feeling.

The Indians in Kansas and Nebraska had recommenced hostilities and attacked the forts Wallace and Harker, but were repulsed.

Advices received here from Mexico state that the Mexican press were urging the execution of Maximilian, and that Escobedo had threatened to depose Juarez if he opposed the execution.

The occupation of Tampico by the Republicans on the 9th is confirmed.

A crazy woman lately presented a draft for \$3,000,000, drawn in favor of Jeff. Davis, to the Bethlem Pa., Bank.

The *Detroit Post* calculates that during one month of the past winter 1,410,000,000 tons of snow fell in the United States. Some idea of this vast weight may be had from the statement that it is more than ten times the weight of all the wheat grown in this country since its first settlement. Since this estimate was made very large quantities of snow have fallen; enough to place the winter of 1867 at the head of snowy seasons.

THE EXECUTION OF THE EMPEROR MAXIMILIAN.

Galignani's Messenger publishes the following article, purporting to be a re-publication from the *New Orleans Picayune* of the details given by the *Esperanza de Queretaro* of June 20, of the last moments of the Emperor Maximilian:—

The Council met in a secret sitting on the morning of the 11th, under the presidency of General Corona, with whom were General Escobedo, Martinez, Ruiz, Negrete, and two colonels. The three prisoners were brought before this tribunal. Maximilian declined to avail himself of the assistance of an advocate, whilst Mejia and Miramon chose one to defend them conjointly. We have been unable to obtain the details of this sitting, which did not last an hour. The condemnation, which was sent off the same day, was not returned until the morning of the 18th. The President, it is affirmed, was inclined

to clemency; but the Mexican minister at Washington, Romero, overcame that disposition, and obtained the order for execution, notwithstanding the plea that only a small majority had affirmed the sentence. As soon as General Corona was put in possession of the necessary document, the three prisoners were informed of it. They manifested no surprise, because it had been impossible to conceal from them any longer the fate of the others. Maximilian simply requested that they might be left together until the last moment, which was graciously accorded. They were transferred to the building, formerly a convent, which served as an hospital for the French troops, because the hall on the ground floor was commodious and spacious, and had a pleasant prospect out upon the garden of the interior court. An altar was raised at the further end; and the sentinels were instructed to fire upon anyone attempting to enter or come out without a written permission from Captain Gonzalez.

The only persons allowed to enter was the Abbe Fischer, secretary and religious adviser of the Emperor. Some time after the Bishop of Queretaro arrived, offering his sacred ministrations, which was accepted after a brief consultation between the prisoners. The night was passed in quiet conversation, and the condemned men confessed. Miramon was suffering greatly from the wound in his eye, which he constantly bathed with cold water. Mejia fell into a deep sleep. Maximilian asked for paper and pens, which, in the middle of the night, were found with some difficulty. He wrote two letters, one in German, addressed to his mother, and the other to his wife. He confided them to the bishop, begging him to have them forwarded. He added a lock of his hair, which the wife of one of the guards came and cut off for him. He kissed it, folded it together, and slipped it into the envelope, which was already sealed. Towards four in the morning the Emperor desired to hear mass, which was said by the bishop. Mejia was roused up, and all three communicated. After mass, Maximilian appears to have remained for a long time kneeling on the hard stones, for there was no prie-Dieu, with his head bent, and his hands over his eyes. Whether he was praying or weeping is uncertain. Miramon was pale and downcast; Mejia was radiant—for we must remember that he is an Indian, and that it is glorious for him to die along with his master—as he declared.

At seven o'clock the notes of a military band were heard, and Capt. Gonzales entered the chapel with bandages to blindfold the prisoners. Miramon submitted to the operation quietly. Mejia refused, and as the Captain was about to use force, the Bishop whispered a few words to the General, who then acquiesced. But the Emperor, coming forward, declared that, as to himself, he would not be blindfolded. After a moment's hesitation, Gonzales, with a friendly salutation to Maximilian, went and took his place at the head of the escorting party. The procession then moved forward, a squadron of Lancers in front, followed by the band playing a funeral march. A battalion of infantry, formed in two lines, composed the remainder of the escort. When it reached the principal gate of the hospital Mejia said aloud:—Sire, give to us for the last time, the example of your noble courage, we follow your Majesty. The Franciscan friars now appeared, the two in front bearing the cross and holy water, the others holding tapers. Each of the three coffins intended for the doomed men was carried by a group of four Indians; three black crosses to be fixed where each prisoner knelt for execution were borne last. Capt. Gonzales then made a sign to Maximilian to move forward. The Emperor advanced courageously saying to his two generals, *Vemosos á la libertad!* The procession slowly ascended the street leading to the cemetery, behind the church, and by the road approaching the aqueduct.

It soon came out upon the height overlooking the plain, and, seen from below, the appearance of the cortege was most impressive. The Emperor walked first, having the Abbe Fischer on his right, and the Bishop on his left. Immediately behind came Miramon, supported on each side by Franciscans, and Mejia between two priests of Santa Cruz.

When the procession reached the summit of the hill, Maximilian looked steadily at the rising sun; then, taking out his watch, he pressed a spring which concealed a portrait, in miniature, of the Empress Charlotte. He kissed it, and handing the chain to the Abbe Fischer, said:—"Carry this souvenir to Europe to my dear wife, and if she be ever able to understand

you, say that my eyes closed with the impression of her image, which I shall carry with me above!" The cortege had now reached the great exterior wall of the cemetery, and the bells were slowly tolling a funeral knell. Only those composing the escort were present, for the crowd had been debarred from ascending the hill. Three small benches, with the wooden crosses, were placed against the wall, and three shooting parties, each having two non-commissioned officers as a reserve for the coup de grace, approached within a few paces of the prisoners.

The Emperor, at the noise made by the movement of the muskets, thought the soldiers were about to fire, and, rapidly turning to his two companions he embraced them most affectionately. Miramon, surprised, very nearly sank upon the seat, where he remained quite helpless, and the Franciscans raised him in their arms. Mejia returned the embrace of Maximilian, whispering some broken words which were not overheard; he then folded his arms and remained standing. The bishop, advancing, addressed the Emperor:—"Sire, give to Mexico, without any exception; the kiss of reconciliation in my person; let your Majesty, in this supreme moment; accord pardon to all." The Emperor was unable to conceal the emotion which agitated him; he allowed the bishop to embrace him—then raising his voice, he said:—"Tell Lopez that I forgive him his treachery—tell all Mexico that I pardon its crime." His Majesty then pressed the hand of the Abbe Fischer, who, unable to utter a word, sank at the feet of the Emperor, bathing with tears his hands, which he kissed. Many present wept bitterly. Maximilian gently extricated his hand, and, advancing a step, said with a melancholy smile to the officer commanding the executing party, *á la disposition de usted*. At that moment, on a sign given by the officer, the muskets were levelled against the Emperors breast; he murmured a few words in German, and the discharge enveloped the spectators in smoke. Miramon fell heavily to the ground; Mejia remained erect, and waved his arms about, but a ball through the head ended his agony. The Emperor fell back upon the cross which sustained his corpse; the body was immediately raised and placed in the coffin, as were those of the two generals. All three were buried without delay in the cemetery, the bishop giving the absolution.

General Corona subsequently summoned the Prelate, and demanded the surrender of the letters. The one addressed to the Archduchess Sophia was not opened, as she, being the mother of the Emperor, could not be supposed to receive any dangerous communication from her son. That to the Empress Charlotte was unsealed for weighty and justifiable political and State reasons, and we have been allowed to take a copy of it. Its terms are these:—

"My dearly beloved Carlotta—If God one day permits your recovery, and you read these lines, you will learn the cruelty of the ill-fortune which has unceasingly pursued me since your departure for Europe. You took with you all my chance and my soul. Why did I not listen to your council? So many events, alas! so many sudden blows have broken all my hopes, that death is for me a happy deliverance, and not an agony. I fall gloriously, as a soldier—as a king, vanquished, but not dishonoured. If your sufferings be too great—if God call you speedily to rejoin me, I will bless the Divine Hand which has so heavily pressed upon us. Adieu, adieu!"

Your poor MAX.

A Vienna letter says that the accounts received from Miramon, respecting the Empress Charlotte are very sad. All hope of recovery seems to have vanished. The *Morgenpost* has a communication, which says:—

The mental alienation has now attained to such a pitch that the unhappy Princess cannot be left alone for an instant, and has several times attempted her life. Two recent attempts of this kind were fortunately prevented, by the watchfulness of Doctor Slek, who has the august patient under his care. Nevertheless, the Empress is occasionally, for a few moments at a time, in full possession of faculties. In one of these lucid intervals, lately, she said, "I do not desire to live any longer; death is preferable to such an existence;" then after a short pause she asked, "Where is my husband? Shall I never see him more? No, no, he is dead, and I am still left in the world." Scarcely a quarter of an hour passes that the Empress does not ask for news of the Emperor Maximilian. The physical condition of Her Majesty also inspires very serious alarm.

REVIEW FOR EUROPE.

During the fortnight many extants of great importance have occurred in the River Plate. The long-talked-of move of the allied army has been at last effected: the vanguard under the command of Gen. Osorio has marched to a very exposed but commanding position on the enemy's flank; Marshal Caxias with the bulk of the allied army has encamped at the rear of Humaita, at an estancia called San Solano, whilst the old position of the allies at Tuyutis held by Port Alegre with a strong force and a powerful artillery. The line of communications which the allies have to maintain is so much exposed that unless the Brazilian squadron force the pass of the river at Humaita, the present position of the allied army is untenable. A combined attack on the enemy is mooted, but although the public of Buenos Ayres regard victory as certain, and immense preparations have been going on to celebrate the long looked for triumph, we cannot hesitate to say, that the difficulties which the allies must encounter in an assault on the enemy's position are of such a character as to inspire grave fears as to the result. Had the allies, when they effected their flank movement, pushed on with energy, and attacked the Paraguayans before they had time to concentrate their forces in front of San Solano, it is probable they would have forced Lopez behind the very walls of Humaita. But valuable time has been lost; the fleet never attempted a passage, and the result is, that the enemy not only defends the line at all points, but has cut right down on the road leading from Itapiru to San Solano, and swept off several hundred head of cattle, bullock-carts &c. and in fact the allies preserve their communications with the river only by means of a powerful cavalry force under the command of Gen. Hornos.

The melancholy intelligence of the shooting of the Emperor Maximilian has produced a most profound impression in this city, and even Argentines who felt little sympathy for the Empire, deprecate the act and condemn the perpetrators. The full confirmation of this tragic affair reached us by the Quito, which made a fine passage out, and after coaling started for Valparaiso.

Application has been made to Congress to subscribe for 15,000 more shares of the Central Argentine Railway; it is possible Congress will pass the bill, as it is the anxious wish of all parties to carry the road full through to Cordova. The works are now finished to Villa Nueva, and will shortly be publicly inaugurated. An extension of time for the conclusion of the road has also been asked for, and will probably be granted.

In Buenos Ayres we have to lament another disastrous fire at the National Government-house, and the almost total destruction of the papers and documents belonging to the offices burnt. The Argentine Government has applied to the Provincial Bank for another loan, and as the Governor of Buenos Ayres approves of the business it is probable that it will be effected, but as yet the matter is not concluded, as it has to go before the house of Legislature; the proposed loan is for two millions patacons, secured by Custom-house bills. Owing to the very heavy disbursements which the National Government has to make, the state of the treasury is by no means favorable, but the Minister deserves the very highest praise for the punctuality and promptitude with which he always meets the interest and amortization of the National debt.

President Mitre has arrived at headquarters, and assumed the command of the army. We feel convinced, owing to the present position of the belligerents, that the campaign is at last drawing to a conclusion; possibly before the sailing of the English mail the decisive battle will be fought.

Congress has been discussing the capital question, and we regret to say that the Deputies, or lower house, have voted for the removal of the capital to Rosario; the bill has yet to pass the Senate, but the probabilities are that the house will pass the measure, and the capital will be finally removed to Rosario. This change is calculated to seriously injure Buenos Ayres, and even the most experienced statesmen view in the proposed change the possible dismemberment of the Argentine Union. Owing to the vote of Congress, house property in Rosario has risen immensely in value, and speculation is going on in house and land property of every description.

The state of affairs in the Interior shows a slight improvement. Gen. Paunero with the National troops is still in the North, and General Taboada of Santiago has rendered the most effective service in suppressing the

revolt; still there is great room for improvement. The Indians on our frontiers are very troublesome; lands have declined in value, and until the Governments of the respective Provinces are firmly established, and our frontiers well-protected, it is improbable that there will be any disposition on the part of foreigners to invest in those cheap and hitherto favorable localities.

The sheep farmers in the River Plate have, up to the present, had a most prosperous season: the flocks have increased, on an average some thirty per cent. Although yet wanting some two months of the shearing season the flocks are very heavy with wool, which is mainly attributed to the good condition of the animals and the excellent pasturage. In fact there is every reason for supposing that the clip this year will be as superior in quality as in quantity, but the very low state of the market, and the extremely cheap prices at which sheep are selling, hold out no inducement to parties about to commence sheep-farming business. During the fortnight there have been various sales of both land and stock: some sixty thousand sheep, in the district of the Laguna de Los Padres, have been sold at \$10 m/c. each, say 1s. 8d. per head; this sale has caused great notice, but the sheep are of an inferior class: good mestizash sheep, however have been sold at 2s. 6d. per head, equal to \$15 m/c. our currency, and even at this low price buyers cannot be had for all the sheep offering. Several square leagues of land held under squatters' title have also been sold, the purchasers paying from £200 to £350 per league. In Entre Rios and the Banda Oriental there have also been some sales at reserved prices: and as the shearing season approaches we have no doubt numerous other sales will be effected.

We regret to announce the failure of a large Montevidean barraquero, Sr. Irragaray; liabilities 800,000 patacons. Sr. Irragaray was one of the largest wool exporters in Montevideo, and had a magnificent wool-washing establishment, supplied with the very best machinery from Europe. His failure has caused very serious losses, but not by any means to the extent first stated. The assets are variously estimated; it is considered however that the estate will at the lowest calculation pay 50 per cent.

Money is very easy, and interest rules at 6 per cent per annum. Owing to the low rate of exchange foreigners are in demand for export purposes, and command a premium. The steamer Uruguay, which sailed from this port on the 6th ult., took in specie £68,000 sterling, and, in fact, until the wool season sets in, and the saladeristas commence working, there are but slight prospects of any cessation in the export of specie. The constant demand on this market for army supplies maintains business brisk; wheat and Indian corn have risen greatly in price, and are still rising. The grain crops of the Plate are now utterly insufficient for the consumption, and up to the present we have been drawing our supplies from Valparaiso. The railways continue to do an active trade, considering the season. Our banks are also doing a thriving business notwithstanding the low rate of interest.

Exchange on England	48.
Do on France	4.95.
Do on Rio	26.800.

THE NEW STEAMER ESTRELLA

TRIAL TRIP TO ROSARIO.

On Tuesday at noon we left the Tigre for Rosario, to make the first trip of Capt. Davis's new steamer, Estrella. The day was fine, and the scenery of the Capitan and islands of the Paraná appeared to much advantage. Nothing could exceed the comfort of the vessel, and the builder, Mr. Marshal, expressed himself quite satisfied with her sailing qualities. Before sundown we overtook the Guazú (formerly Estrella del Norte, another of Marshal's boats) and passed her; she had started some time before us from the Tigre. Dinner was served up in capital style, and although Capt. Davis remained on deck we drank his health and "Success to the Estrella" with all honors, Mr. Dowas occupying the chair.

It was moonlight when we reached Baradero, and by some misfortune our steam ran so low that the Guazú came up on us and passed so swiftly as soon to leave us out of sight. It was found that the floats of the paddle-wheels were not long enough, and the vessel was not quite trim, for want of ballast forward. A fog set in after midnight and obliged us to come to an anchor till morning. Next day we passed San Pedro, Hermanas, and San Nicolas,

making short stays at each place and exchanging courtesies with the inhabitants.

At 3 o'clock on Thursday morning we halted at Subelzu's saladero, and proceeded up to Rosario by sunrise. Numbers of people came down to see the new steamer, while our company went ashore to visit the town.

Rosario has made wonderful progress in the last four years. The streets have been paved, several fine houses built, and the number of foreigners now seen in the streets is surprising, while the trading growth of the place is evinced by the crowd of sea-going vessels in port. The great object of interest is, of course, the Central Argentine Railway: we were happy to find Mr. Wheelwright looking stout and hearty, and after visiting the Jardin de Recreo we walked through the workshops and terminus, which are very extensive and full of immense quantities of railway material.

There is one train daily, each way, to and from Frayle Muerto, and on the 1st Sept. the line will be opened another section, to Villa Nueva. This latter place is the grand centre of the great provincial highways of the North and West, and as the line may be said here to tap the commercial arteries of Cordoba, Mendoza, Tucuman, Salta &c., it is likely the remaining road to Cordoba will not be so actively pushed forward. All the provincial bullock-waggons halt at Villa Nueva, and as the freight by train is no higher than at present charged from Frayle Muerto we may anticipate the line will now begin to do a fine goods' traffic. The terminus at Rosario is only a temporary building, but the rolling stock is excellent, and the locomotives are of prodigious size and power. Some vessels were discharging at the slip, and we saw a large stock of rails and chairs for the continuation of the line. At present some 200 men are camped near Villa Nueva, finishing that section; they have not been attacked by the Indians or Gauchos 'alzados', but on one occasion had an alarm and at once steamed off in hot haste, en masse, to Frayle Muerto.

The stranger in Rosario cannot fail to be struck by the superior condition of the streets, as compared with B. Ayres, and the macademized pavement reminds us of Mr. Perkins's efforts in this particular: the Municipality actively continues these improvements, and gangs of workmen (not prisoners) are seen in various streets. Several English stores seem to be doing a fair business, although this is the dull season; Messrs. Waterford and Soames (the Standard agency) have a fine shop; so have Messrs. Baker and Templeton, and there is a good Livery-stable just started by Messrs. MacCraith and Dolan. I can say nothing about the Hotels, for the foreign residents are so hospitable as not to allow one to enter them.

There is a new Gefatura or Town-hall building in the plaza, which promises an attractive front and very little accommodation within; the walls look so thin as to make one nervous about the altos. Few small towns can boast so many banks as Rosario, and the River Plate, Argentine and Mauá establishments are in comfortable quarters. The Club is shut up, owing to internal disorganization: the ball-room is fine, but the house seems falling, the rear inclining like the Tower of Pisa.

At 5 p.m. Capt. Davis gave a banquet to the chief men of the place, including some lawyers, local authorities, merchants &c.: sixty persons sat down to dinner, and when the toasts began.

Mr. Perkins rose and gave the health of Queen Victoria, alluding in very graceful terms to the recollections of home and country evoked by the toast: it was drunk by all present, standing, with the utmost cordiality.

Mr. Liefink next proposed the toast of the day, 'Capt. Davis and the Estrella,' which was received with great enthusiasm, Capt. Davis replying in very appropriate language.

Dr. Pastor Obligado junr. drank "success to the commercial public of Rosario," alluding also to the chief topics of political interest at present agitating men's minds.

Dr. Vila, editor of the *Ferro-carril*, responded on behalf of the city of Rosario, and commented on its rising importance.

Mr. M. G. Mulhall celebrated the *entente cordiale* happily existing in the River Plate between natives and foreigners, and hoped no other rivalry would ever occur except that of promoting the interest of the country.

Mr. Bollaert proposed "the Ladies"; drunk with flowing bumpers.

After dinner singing was introduced, and sundry national ballads of Old England, interspersed with Moore's

soul-stirring Irish melodies, were given in a very effective manner. The company broke up at 9 o'clock; much pleased with Capt. Davis's hospitality and the new steamer.

Some of our party then repaired to Sor Ramallo's tertulia: the gathering of young ladies was a fair sample of the youth and beauty of Rosario, and we had a very pleasant evening.

Capt. Davis having got in three tons of ballast to trim the vessel, we started on the return-voyage at 9.30 on Friday morning, made the run to San Nicolas (40 miles) in 3 hours 7 minutes, and arrived back in the Tigre by 3 a. m. yesterday. We got in before the Luxan, which is also a very swift boat and another of Marshal's.

The Estrella will be delayed four days at the Tigre to lengthen the floats and the funnel, after which alteration she will be one of the quickest, as she is now one of the most commodious boats on these rivers. We warmly congratulate Captain Davis and Mr. Marshal, and augur great popularity for the new steamer.

THE WAR IN THE NORTH.

VICTORY OF THE ALLIES.

PARAGUAYAN COMMUNICATIONS CUT OFF.

On Sunday the Italian steamer Venezia arrived bringing highly important news from head quarters.

For the first time since this long war commenced the allies have drawn their supplies from the enemy's country, and although the victory which Castro describes in his official despatch at foot, is a partial encounter and apparently a small affair, still it is the best news that has come down from headquarters since the affair of Curupaty. President Mitre, having taken reconnaissance of the enemy's country, determined to make a raid in order to discover the high road from Humaita to Asuncion, and find out what supplies the enemy held in that direction; he accordingly despatched Castro on the morning of the 3rd. with a strong force of some 3,000 men. They encountered the enemy in a small number holding an outpost on the Arroyo Hondo, and a short fight decided the day; as night was approaching and the division was very far ahead of the bulk of the army, he ordered his men to fall back on the allied encampment.

It appears that the bulk of the allied army rests at Tuyu-Cuê where it has been for the last eight days, and the Commander-in-chief awaits the conclusion of a bridge by the sappers and miners over the pass of the Canoa before advancing: by this bridge his communications with Itapiru can be more easily preserved, than by the Piris road and once having secured his rear, he will push ahead to San Solano and possibly from thence to Pilar. There is one rapid stream to be crossed but the engineers are preparing to throw a bridge over it. Private letters state that Osorio has captured a band of poor Paraguayan women coming towards Humaita with supplies for the army, but we suppose the Brazilian commander after seizing the supplies liberated the unfortunate women.

The cattle swept from the Paraguayans by Castro came very apropos for the allied army, as we read that the day previously the army had not cattle at the encampment to kill.

Some 'chasques' report having found in the woods three unfortunate Brazilian women murdered, and we lament indeed to say that from what we can gather the war is daily becoming more and more sanguinary; even of the poor suttlers and traders, many have perished on the road side, and their goods and chattels swept off. The war however cannot last much longer; things are coming to a crisis, but it appears the fleet will do nothing.

San Solano, Aug. 3rd.

To H. E. Gen. Mitre, Commander-in-chief.

Having returned from the commission entrusted to me, I have the honor to report as follows—

Before daybreak I set out with my division, taking Col. Rodriguez's 11th regiment; arriving near San Solano I ordered Colonel Sobrinho and Da Silva with their respective regiments to support Rodriguez. At 7 a.m. when within 1500 yards of San Solano, Rodriguez came upon an enemy's picket of 20 men, who fell back to Penimbu; here the Paraguayans had a force of six or seven hundred cavalry, mostly badly mounted, which he drove back and pursued as far as Arroyo Hondo, some three miles from Penimbu.

Brigadier Neves being then ordered up, with three companies, the enemy were routed and put to the sword as far as Posta Chuché, some six miles

below Villa Pilar; many of the fugitives saved themselves in the woods.

The enemy's loss is estimated, at 150 slain and 24 prisoners, besides a booty of 600 head of cattle, 360 horses, two waggons, 400 lances and carbines, 7 swords, and a quantity of sappers' implements. We have moreover cut their telegraph-wires running from Humayta to Asuncion, in ten or twelve places, destroying their communication for about 4 leagues.

At 11 a.m. being close behind Humayta I ordered the advanced columns to fall back, and when all my forces were re-assembled we marched back to San Solano and encamped here at 2 p.m. Our casualties do not exceed one man killed and eight wounded. In crossing the bridge over the Arroyo, I detailed the Argentines and a Brazilian corps to cover our rear. This is all I have to report in the matter.

ENRIQUE CASTRO.

Private letter from General Gelly-and-Obes

Head-quarters at Tuyu-Cuê Aug. 3rd.

D. Cecilio Echeberria Esteemed friend,

This morning the enemy got licked at Arroyo Hondo, behind Humaita, by a cavalry column under Gen. Castro. The result has been their complete defeat, leaving on the field more than 200 dead, besides 30 prisoners, 2000 head of cattle, 1100 lean horses, a few sheep, lots of arms (which we destroyed as useless) and 2 powder-waggons.

In fine they have had a jolly good thrashing, and we cut their telegraph-wires which communicated with Asuncion.

I have nothing else of note to tell you now; so, "no more at present but yours till death."

JUAN A. GELLY-AND-OBES.

NEW NATIONAL LOAN.

THE GOVERNOR'S NOTE.

THE PROVINCIAL EXECUTIVE.

To the Hon. Legislative Assembly. Buenos Ayres, August 7, 1867.

The National Government has applied to us for our consent to arrange a new loan with the Bank. In the present instance, as on all former occasions the Executive believes that patriotism and duty alike oblige the Province of Buenos Ayres to lend its most active and cordial co-operation to the National authority. Let the clouds which darken our political horizon, and already threaten to burst with resistless fury over the land, come from what quarter they may—the Interior, or Paraguay; let the capital be transported whither you will, from Rosario to Patagonia, our faith in the definite triumph of the good cause, in the power of the admirable Constitution of the Argentine nation, remains unshaken. Strong in this belief, we feel in honor and conscience bound to aid the Government as much as possible. For this reason we now solicit of your Hon. Chamber the sanction to the annexed project, which, while it renders a signal service to the nation, is conducive to the interests of the Provincial Bank, by offering a securely lucrative employment for a small amount of the bullion reserve at present uselessly overflowing the coffers, whilst it must also add to the more speedy amortisation of the million patacons granted on May 30, 1865.

The happy results of the law of the 22d October, 1866, authorising the Bank to emit notes, payable to bearer at sight, and opening an account current with the National Government to the amount of four millions of patacons, is a sufficient guarantee for urging the adoption of the present measure.

The former transaction, like the present, was made in Bank notes, and today the balance against Government amounts only to 2,600,000 patacons, thereby showing that within the eight months since then elapsed, the Bank has been refunded \$1,400,000. At this rate the whole thing will be cleared off by the end of next year.

In fact, we are now only asked to do as we did last year, with this difference, that the amortisation fund will be increased six per cent., and this includes the million granted in May 1865, which before had no specified liquidation. Besides this, the Bank might contract with the National Government for the discount of Custom-house Bills.

The Executive trusts that the Legislature having considered this most important subject, will not withhold its sanction from a measure which already counts on the support of the Bank Managers.

ADOLFO ALSINA, MARIANO VARELA, NICOLAS AVELLANEDA.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

To the Weekly Standard.

\$20 PER MONTH.

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Not exceeding 6 lines inserted for \$20

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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.

THE WEEKLY STANDARD.

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

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 14, 1867.

THE WAR IN THE NORTH.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT)
Itapiru, August 9.

Gentlemen,
On the 3d the Brazilians impressed all the draught cattle, carts, pack horses, and mules to be found, without any exception, belonging to persons unconnected with the Government. The carts are being loaded with pine plank and scantling, timber apparently for making bridges. The sumpter animals, loaded with sacks of corn, are put in movement northwards. For the property thus forcibly taken from its owners, an ample equivalent in ready money is promptly given: in many instances a larger sum than the value of the appropriated chattels is paid. As a compensation for an ox cart, pretty well used, six lean oxen, and four worthless, jaded horses, I have seen returned a hundred sovereigns, an unusual mode, at least in this country, for paying for property taken per force for war purposes. The news of the day is, the Allied forces have made a temporary halt, at no great distance from Pilar, leaving on their left the fortress of Humaita. Wherever they have come to they have invariably found everything burnt that would burn, while anything not inflammable is sure to be found smashed. In the neighborhood of San Solano a large drove of horned cattle, and many horses and sheep, were captured. At the same time a body of Paraguayans were routed, a hundred or more of whom were killed, and a few taken prisoners. The telegraph wires leading from Humaita to Asuncion had been severed. As yet there is no appearance of the enemy offering battle. No firing was heard to-day at any time, save a few stray musket shots.

On the morning of the 4th seven cannon reports were heard from the advanced line. A blinding dust, caused by a strong north wind, has filled every cranny; a wide ditch, that encloses the Brazilian cemetery, was made in many places level ground by it. It is well this chanced to be so, for it hid from view much disgusting filth. The Argentine steamer Curuzu came in from Rosario with the English barque Premier in tow, laden with corn and hay. The packet steamer Pingo continues to ply from Itapiru to Guardia Cerrito and Corrientes, making daily trips: to-day she came in with a cargo of carts. No firing was audible, except the morning shots, during the day; in fact, it was too dusty to fight or to do anything else.

5th. Precisely at sunrise a spirited cannonade was commenced at three distinct points. It continued, without a moment's cessation, for the space of two hours. The loudest of the reports came from the river Paraguay. It was evident the iron-clads were engaged, probably shelling the jungles, where the Paraguayans are known to have thrown up earthworks in a new position. In the interim, at the extreme right, and beyond Tuyuty, great guns were also in play, intermingled with a spattering fire of musketry. Inferring from the numerous loud reports of artillery, as also a constant rattle of small-arms, somebody must certainly have been slain, and possibly a good many somebodies: notwithstanding, no wounded have come in from any quarter. At noon the thermometer stood at eighty-five degrees in the shade, rather warm for mid-winter. Mosquitoes, flies, and gnats have made their appearance, and are very troublesome. At sunset there was some firing from the advanced picquets, but, on the whole, a quiet enough night followed.

6th. A few artillery discharges in the morning, a few in the evening, comprise all the noise heard during the last twenty four hours. A troop of ten carts, seven of which were loaded with commissariat stores, and three with sutler's goods, bound hence to the encampment of Casias, were waylaid by the Paraguayans and made prizes of. Three of the sutlers are

missing, one a basque is known to have been killed. The carts were quickly plundered of their contents, and left, as well as the oxen, a proof that the captors were in great haste. This took place at midday, three leagues hence upon the same road I had passed over two days previously. At the time of the capture the teams were unyoked, fortunately the commissariat carts were principally loaded with yerba, an article the Paraguayans do not stand in need of as they have more than they want of it, and of a much better quality than any Mr. Lanus can procure. The sutlers' carts were gutted without mercy. Measures have been taken to prevent a recurrence of the like insult. A Brazilian transport came in with a contingent; among the passengers were forty surgeons, noble looking men, many of whom it was plain belonged to the Anglo-Saxon race; all wore brilliant uniforms.

7th. The day is announced by the booming of distant cannon, here nobody seems to have the smallest curiosity to know anything of the result of the enormous expenditure of powder, shot, and shell; in truth it has become so common, that a prolonged stunning cannonade carried on in anger has no novelty, and causes no more sensation, than if a few mischievous boys were letting off a few squibs. Nothing is ever officially made known either here or in Corrientes of belligerent doings at the Estero Bellaco or its vicinity. The arrivals from below are the steamer Itapiruru with a large contingent, an Argentine steamer, with two tows, one of which showed Hanoverian colors, the other French. The steamer and tows had deck-loads of alfalfa, all had covers; two river schooners both heavy laden also came in: the aggregate number of tons of hay arrived during ten hours will pass a thousand. If it be a tedious thing to unload goods from the roadstead of Buenos Ayres, here it is much more so. Although the vessels lie in smooth water a cable's length from the shore, thence to the firm ground, by a small inlet that gives free access the distance is five cuadras; yet it takes a month or more to unload a moderate sized vessel. There are no port or quarantine regulations, no custom-house, nor 'dias de fiesta,' not even Sundays; anybody can land or embark goods at all times, at all hours, come and go when he likes, without intervention, or leave, or license, from any authority. Shipmasters employed by the Argentine Government complain of bad faith, that in some cases little heed is given to the sanctity of a charter party. For a month we have had fine weather; now the sky has a dark heavy appearance, threatening a change.

On the morning of the 8th much rain fell; it did not prevent the usual salvos at the north. A part of the troops landed yesterday from the transports, and had to bivouac in the mud; the consequences were, not a few of them had to be taken to the hospital, suffering from 'chuchu.'

Respecting the battle, we will not attempt to predict when it may take place. It would seem to be the policy of Lopez to avoid fighting. It may answer his purpose better to make a network of ditches on all sides; to seek the shelter of the jungles and bogs, and from thence carry on a guerrilla warfare. Perhaps in the whole universe there is not a spot of such peculiar fitness for a small force to dispute with a greater number than the Estero Bellaco and the circumjacent country.

Respectfully yours,

SINBAD.

LATEST FROM BRAZIL.

Rio de Janeiro, August 6th 1867.

My last missive went forward by the Newton on the 27th ult. and I now proceed to hand you my usual packet letter.

Another mail has arrived bringing us the everlasting intelligence that at the time of the steamer's departure everything was ready for the grand attack on the Paraguayan lines and the order to advance momentarily expected, so that a transport steamer may be daily looked for with the welcome news of victory. This has now been the tenor of the advices by every steamer for so long that people here have begun to disbelieve the intelligence and have become careless and disappointed. This time however taking all the circumstances into consideration, it would appear that the Generalissimo did really intend making an immediate advance at the leaving of the last steamer from the seat of war and that within a few days this important movement would be attempted.

—Quid enim? Concurratur horum. Momento cita mors venit, aut victoria locata.

Whatever the result of this battle may be, the loss of life and "material" must of necessity be immense, whilst on it would also seem to hang in a great measure the destinies of a large portion of the South American Continent. For the sake of liberty and commerce it is to be hoped that success may ere this have crowned the efforts of the Allies to overthrow tyranny and open a vast country to commerce and civilization.

I perceive that the article in the *Diario do Rio*, on the fortification of the island of Martin Garcia, to which I alluded in a previous letter and of which I sent you a copy, has excited a great deal of attention both in Montevideo and Buenos Ayres. The *'Diario do Rio'* has since the date of my last letter published three more articles on the same subject, in which the same doctrines as were set forth in the two previous ones are again laid down and adds that "this island cannot be turned into a fortress in time of war" and therefore much less in time of peace. How can this idea of neutralisation of the island be carried out, "if the state in possession of it, transforms it into a second Humaita? Naturally by coercive measures, vigorously applied in proportion as its fortifications are powerful; that is, by means of war." On the 30th ultimo the Deputy J. M. de Macedo asked the Minister for foreign Affairs for information on the matter and the 3rd inst was fixed for the Minister's reply, but as the number of Deputies present on that day was not sufficient for business, the explanations of the minister were not given. I send you enclosed copies of the three last articles published in the *'Diario do Rio'*, as your readers may like to see them in full.

We have now a larger number of foreign vessels of war lying at anchor in the Bay, than I ever recollect having seen before; in all 23 of the various nations, as under:

English—Egmont, Narcissus, Spiteful, Triton, Nassau, Virago, Chanticleer, Dryad, Ocean.

American—Guerrero, Brooklyn, Province, Kansas, Oneida, Nipsic and Paconee.

French—Magicienne, Coetlon.

Spanish—Almanza, Numaucia, Navas de Tolosa, Concepcion.

Italian—Conte de Cavour.

Dutch—S. Gravenhagen.

On the 30th ult. Admiral Godon, commanding the American squadron on this station, on handing over the command to his successor, Admiral Davis, gave a banquet on board the U. S. frigate Brooklyn to the Brazilian Minister of Agriculture, Commerce and Public Works. Among the distinguished guests present were the British Minister, Mr. Thornon, Admiral Davis, Councillor Joaquim Thomaz do Amaral, the Deputies Seitaio da Cunha and Salustiano Souto, and Sr Xavier Pinheiro, confidential secretary of the Minister.

On the 30th ult. also, an unfortunate Spanish girl named Alphonsa Perez committed suicide at the D. Pedro Hotel, by dissolving the heads of a box of Roche's wax vestas and drinking the poisonous mixture. When medical assistance was called in it was too late to save the life of the poor girl who died in the greatest agony. The history of Alphonsa Perez is so sad and yet so romantic that all the daily papers published it and I hand you enclosed a copy.

On the night of the 31st ult. all Rio was thrown into a state of excitement by the report spread from mouth to mouth, that the widow of the deceased capitalist Coelho de Oliveira had been forcibly placed in a carriage and carried off as she was returning with other ladies to her house in the Rua dos Barbons, by the Bacharel Raymundo Martiniano Alves de Souza, who recently gained in Rio an unenviable notoriety on account of his having been the seducer of D. Helena da Silva, murdered in a moment of jealous frenzy by her husband Dr. José Marianno da Silva. The facts of the case are as follows:—The widow of the deceased capitalist Joaquim Coelho de Oliveira, a lady of 50 years of age and possessed of a fortune said to be above £80,000 sterling, was returning with several other ladies from the house of a relative whom they had visited, to her house in the Rua dos Barbons about 8 o'clock in the evening, when they were set upon by a group of individuals armed and masked. A fierce struggle took place, during which one of the ladies succeeded in tearing off the false beard &c. of one of the assailants and recognised at once the features of Raymundo Martiniano Alves de Souza. Meanwhile the widow was overpowered, and her mouth gagged, and she was then put into a carriage standing near and into which Raymundo also entered. The brother Valerio Publi-

cola Alves de Souza and the other ruffians continued struggling with the remainder of the ladies until a police sergeant attracted by the cries came up, and then two of the ruffians got on the box of the carriage and this drove off at full gallop, but Valerio was secured by the ladies and the policeman. The sons of the widow at once went to the police authorities on hearing of the outrage and a regular hue-and-cry was the result. As luck would have it however, the carriage was at 11 p.m. discovered in the Rua do Berquo, Botafogo, close to a house which it turned out had been hired recently by Raymundo, and the coachman informed the authorities that he was on his way to fetch a priest. The house in question was at once surrounded by the police and the coachman arrested, but in accordance with the laws of Brazil the police force could not forcibly enter the premises during the night and had to wait until day-break on the 1st inst. On breaking into the house the police encountered Raymundo with a drawn dagger in his hand threatening the widow with loss of her life if she did not at once agree to marry him; a revolver also was found on his person. There was also in the room a hastily prepared altar, lighted with two candles and before which the abductor had intended to oblige his victim to accept him as her husband. It would appear that on the widow being brought by three men into this room she found Raymundo there in the most approved and fashionable get up for the marriage ceremony, and that while telling her that the priest would soon arrive to marry them and that she would refuse to be married at the peril of her life, he also exhibited a stamped document which he endeavored to compel her to sign. The police at once arrested Raymundo (on whom were found all the necessary documents for marriage but with forged signatures) and six other accomplices found in the house, all of whom were at once sent to the House of Detention and forbidden to have any communication with all persons except the prison authorities. One of the prisoners has given full information to the Police, and it would appear that there are still some accomplices of this vile attempt to obtain a large fortune, on whom the authorities now intend to lay their hands. Raymundo is now likely to pay dearly for this and his previous crimes, as he has caused numerous domestic troubles and misfortunes but has never before come within the reach of the law. Valerio, his brother, was employed at the Arsenal of War, but on the 2nd inst. his dismissal was published in the daily papers by the Minister of War.

The American Packet Havana left this port on the 1st inst. taking to New York our friend Mr. Frank S. Livingston of your city, and 16 other passengers.

On the 1st inst. H. M. the Emperor accompanied by his staff visited the "oulet" works at the S. Bento hill and Gamba, belonging to the City Improvements Company, and exhibited great interest in the works, and satisfaction at what he saw. His Majesty afterwards went to the Naval Arsenal, visited the Machinery works, the Imperial Dock, the ironclads building at Cobras island, and the temporary Asylum for the Invalid Soldiers. On the same day, His Highness the Comte d'Eu went on board the English ironclad frigate Chanticleer now anchored in the Bay, and remained on board some time examining the vessel minutely.

On the 2nd inst. in the Chamber of Deputies the President read a document sent by the Minister of Foreign Affairs and stating that, "relative to the enquiries made to the Government about the intended fortification of the island of Martin Garcia, the Ministers did not consider it convenient to bring the matter before the Chambers for discussion and declined to give the explanation asked for."

Since the arrival of the English Packet on the 2nd the principal topic of conversation has been the heroic death of the unfortunate Maximilian, shot on 19th June together with his two generals Miramon and Mejia by orders of Juarez. In Brazil as in Europe the noble manner in which the late Emperor of Mexico met his death has excited the most enthusiastic admiration while the sanguinary revenge of Juarez is denounced in the strongest terms.

Another Regatta came off on the 4th inst. in the picturesque Bay of Botafogo, and the beach and neighboring houses were crowded with the members of the first families of Rio; several ferry-boats also lay near full of passengers who had come by them from the city to witness the sport. This kind of amusement is now becom-

ing far more popular in Rio than hitherto, and it is to be hoped that the Club now formed may continue to flourish, and others spring up, as it is a shame that with such a magnificent bay for Boating or Yachting we should have no devotees of either one sport or the other.

Some time back in one of my letters I made somewhat extensive remarks on the Relatório presented by the Minister of Foreign Affairs and more especially on the part which treated of the arrest of Major Max Vergen. I now enclose the first of a series of articles from the pen of one of the first law authorities of Brazil, a representative of the Nation and an ex-Minister of State now a Member of the Opposition. You will find that my ideas as expressed in the letter referred to, as far as regards international law, are fully supported by the writer of the articles published in the "Correio Mercantil."

The American Str. Catharine Whiting arrived here on the 5th inst. in 45 days from New Orleans bringing a further lot of 244 Southern emigrants who intend to settle in Brazil.

In consequence of the numerous frauds discovered in our Custom House and in order that for the future the owners of goods may not plead ignorance of the actions of their despatchers the Inspector of our Custom House has determined to publish each day in the papers a statement of the dispatches paid and the amount of duties received.

The 'Bourgogne' left this port for Europe yesterday at 4 pm. The proposal of the Minister of Finance relative to the issue of more paper money is now under discussion in the Senate, and as there appear to be doubts as to whether that Chamber will sanction such a measure, and also as to whether there will betime during this session to carry the Bill through the customary phases even if sanctioned by the Senate, our Money-market is in a very unsettled state, and sovereigns fluctuate considerably as the probabilities for or against the Bill increase. If this Ministry remain in power, however, I feel convinced that the paper-money will be issued and then we may look for an Exchange on London of about 16d and sovereigns worth 15s; but if the present Cabinet resign and the "Conservadores" come into power, it is almost certain that other measures will be taken and little or no more paper-money be issued, at any rate under the form of Government notes.

From Pernambuco we have dates to 27th ult. when Exchange on London was 20d to 21d—On Paris 440rs—On Hamburg 850rs.

From Bahia we have advices to the 31st ult., when Exchange on London was quoted 21d½ to 21d¾—On Paris 440rs.—and on Hamburg 830rs. to 840rs.—Sovereigns 11s300—Carne secca selling at 2s400 to 3s200 per arroba.

From New York we have dates by telegraph to the 11th ult. when Gold was quoted 130 p.s., Exchange on London 110½ p.s. and Cotton middling upland 26 cent. pta.

In Rio Exchange for the "Shannon" opened at 20d½ for Bankers drafts, and 20d¾ to 21d for private Bills, but the rate has since declined to 20d½ to 20d¾ for private paper and 20d¾ for Bankers drafts. On France the bulk of the transactions has been done at 45s to 45rs. per franc. On Hamburg the ruling rate is 86rs p.MB.

Sovereigns have been largely changing hands at 11s400 to 11s550 and I expect to see them rise further—last price 11s550.

Brazilian 6 p.s. Stock—business done at 88 p.s. to 89 p.s.

Bank of Brazil Shares have been sold at 176s to 180s the latter being the rate at which the last sales were effected.

In Freights I am not aware of any Charter having been made for the River Plate.

Carne secca—Stock to-day 231,350 arrobas of which 186,350 River Plate, quotations are 1s400 to 2s800 for Rio Grande and 1s600 to 2s800 for River Plate.

Flour—Two cargoes of American and one of California have arrived, and the total Stock in first hands to-day is 5,800 Brls, California and 3,200 Richmond and Baltimore. Sales have been made of Baltimore extra at 38s to 39s, of Richmond at 38s to 39s, of Trieste at 36s, and of California 34s to 36s.—The market continues firm.

Bran—A small lot from Pernambuco (Lisbon quality) has been sold at 4s600 p.Bag.

Coal—Some 1,500 tons have been sold as follows: Hamburg 22s500. Newcastle 24s, Liverpool 17s.

Salt—has all been sold as soon as arrived at about 800rs. the alqueire.

Rum—Stock 600 pipes quotation 86s in store and 110s f.o.b.

Spanish Wines—A very limited stock in the market, and the only arrival since my report of 22nd ulto. is the Nueva Carlota from Barcelona with 295 pipes red and 8 white, mark J Febere, for a count of a dealer.

Sugar—Pernambuco white, 2nd, 58500 to 58600; 2nd 48800 to 59100; no brown in the market. Maceio none in stock; last sale, white, 48600. Bahia and Cotinguiba white 48200 to 48400, no brown in the market. Campos white 48400 to 48600, Brown (last sales) 38800 to 48. Coarse Brown (last sales) 38600 to 38800. Stock 2000 Bags Pernambuco, 184 cases Bahia and Cotinguiba 55 cases and 4470 bagnes campos.

Coffee—Prices unaltered from those last quoted. Stock 120 bages.

Tobacco—Minas superior quality has been selling at 14\$ to 15\$ the arroba, Bahia is quoted, Nazareth Patent 23\$ to 25\$ Flor 16\$ to 18\$ and first 12\$ to 14\$. San Felix and Cacholira Patente 14\$ to 16\$, Flor 10\$ to 12\$, first 8\$ to 9\$. Stock 1600 bales.

I send you as usual a telegram with the latest news.

CABRAL.

P.S. The Steam transport arrived here from London the other day under the name of Paulo Alfonso has now been named by the imperial Government the Vassino, after one of the youthful heroes who fell at Riachuelo, and Captain J.M. Picazo da Costa has been appointed to the command.

I enclose an illustrated report of the English Ball from our Rio 'Punch,' called the "Semana Ilustrada."

LATEST FROM EUROPE.

(By "TRIBUNA" TELEGRAM.)

Ministerial changes talked of in France. Jules Favre declared in the Chambers that the French Government was mainly responsible for the death of Maximilian. M. Ponsard, of the Academy, is dead.

The Sultan arrived with his suite in London. The King of Egypt was cordially received by Queen Victoria. Lord Derby's life is in danger. England has declared war against Abyssinia.

During the absence of the King of Portugal, his father, Don Fernando, is to act as Regent.

Prussia and Russia have withdrawn their Ministers from Mexico, and England has ordered hers to remain for protection of his countrymen but not to recognize the Republican Government.

The American Congress met on July 4th; the Radicals proclaim a negro as candidate for the Vice-Presidency. (By "Nacion" telegram)

Ministerial changes at Madrid, and several persons shot: Queen Isabella cannot go to Rome, the Cortes refusing money.

Intense excitement all over Europe about Maximilian's death. Austria sends Admiral Tegethoff with a squadron to demand his corpse. A awful excesses at Vera Cruz.

Queen Victoria and all other European courts in mourning for Maximilian. The peers and 300,000 other persons called at Austrian Legation, London, to express their sympathy. French Minister at Mexico rumored to be murdered. Maximilian's mother and wife dying. Fears of complications between France and U. States; Minister Rouher declared another French expedition likely.

(By "Republica" telegram)

Lord Mayor of London arrived in Paris. Juarez committing awful atrocities in Mexico. Disturbances in Spain, ementes at Toledo, Valencia &c. American Congress opened: great sensation in the States against the Mexicans for shooting Maximilian. Turks and Cretons still fighting.

MONTEVIDEO.

Monday.

The Arno arrived this morning and the news was at once sent up by telegraph. We have further details about the sad end of Maximilian, which has caused such universal regret and sympathy among all classes here: a grand funeral Mass was celebrated to-day at the Matriz church for the repose of his soul.

Messrs. Cabal and Williams have received, per Quito, the following flattering letter on the Morgan beef from their agent in Liverpool—

"We enclose report of the 81 casks of beef arrived by 'Cordoba' (June 1867); as certified by Mr. Dan. Williams, you will see that we have sold two casks for samples at 28 shillings per quintal. The buyer says it is the best he has yet seen imported into the country; he is going to shew it to his customers, and expects to have large orders for more. The mutton is of very good quality and comes in large pieces; we remarked some parts slightly discolored, perhaps owing to contact

with the cask. The beef is excellent, but rather darker than lot 49. The rock-salt is mostly melted and we could hardly see more than a handful of it. To-morrow we shall open another cask, and examine it more attentively."

The Tribuna gives a list of objects exhibited at Paris by Mr. Le Long, for which he obtained honorary mention from the Jury: the articles were as follows—

Montevideo.

Horse-hair from Salto; Hornero's nest from Paysandú; Wild bee's nest from Colonia; Nest of hair from Salto; Engraved ostrich-eggs; Do. with arms of B. Ayres and M. Video; Lady's embroidered handkerchief; Gaucho's thong bridles; Do. drawers, rebenque, stirrup, bolas; Mate-cap and bombilla; Stuffed carancho from the Pichinango; Do. rats and water-fowl from San José; Do. humming-birds from Soriano; Two agate stoues from Salto.

Argentine Republic.

Samples from 18 mines in the sierra of Cordoba; knitted towels from Corrientes; shirts, laces, and mother-of-pearl, same place; Flux and wild honey from the Gran Chaco; Dyed ponchos and stuffs of Pampa Indians; Curiosities from Entre-Rios; Wild cotton from Salta and Corrientes; Bird's nests, quebracho, quillai, talco, lapacho, tarilla, algarroba and medicinal woods.

Paraguay.

Inlaid couch made at Asuncion; Poncho dyed with Urubi-retina; horse-cloths, stuffs, sandals, Indian rubber, of home manufacture; Three bundles of tobacco; Baskets and wicker-work; Ear-rings and ornaments of native and Indian women; Bags for provisions in use among the Indians.

THE TOTAL ECLIPSE OF THE SUN.

ON THURSDAY, AUGUST 29, 1867.

(From the Boston, Massachusetts, Daily Evening Traveller of June 22nd.)

Although a total eclipse of the Sun occurs in some part of the Earth about eighty times in a century, it is generally at any particular place the most rare as well as the most magnificent of all phenomena. The occurrence, therefore, of two of these eclipses in about 2 1/2 years or 28 months, at the place in South America situated in Lat. 24° 22' South, Long. 63° 50' West, is very remarkable. In the former of the two on April 25, 1865, the centre of the Moon's shadow crossed our continent in a N. E. direction from Talcahuano in Chili to Cape Frio, near Rio Janeiro in Brazil, but on the 29th of August next the centre of the shadow will cross South America in a nearly east course, from a point in Chili about 100 miles South of Santiago to Maldonado in Uruguay, on the Atlantic. The shadow will occupy about 18 minutes in crossing, and its width will be about 75 miles, or it will extend about 37 to the north and to the south of the central path. The eclipse will therefore be total at Talca. in Chili, but not so at Santiago, whilst at the cities of Buenos Ayres, Montevideo and Maldonado it will be almost exactly central. After the shadow leaves South America at the last mentioned place, it will take a S. E. course and leave the Earth in a high southern Latitude in the Antarctic Ocean.

On Sunday, February 23d, 1863, there will be yet another central eclipse of the Sun visible in South America; this however will happen when the Moon will be nearly at its greatest distance from us and its apparent diameter will consequently be much less than that of the Sun; the eclipse will therefore not be total but annular.

This central eclipse will reach America, in Peru, in Lat. 13° 43' S., Long. 76° 16' W., and in Long. 73° West will attain its greatest South Latitude of 14 1/2°; it then assumes an E. N. E. direction, reaches the Atlantic in Brazil, in Lat. 7° 6' S., Long 34° 53' West and leaves the Earth in Africa in Lat. 19° North, Long. 25° East.

This eclipse will be annular in Peru, at Chilca, Pisco, Ayacucho, and Cuzco, (but probably not at Lima; which is hardly within the northern limit of the ring,) and in Brazil, at Pernambuco, and Parahiba and probably at Natal in Lat. 5° 45' S. Long. 35 1/2° W.

The average latitude of the path of the centre in this eclipse over South America will be about 25° less than that of 29th of August next.

By the longitude, latitude, &c., of the Sun and Moon, by Le Verrier and Hansen, as given in the English Nautical Almanac, the eclipse of the 29th of August 1867 will take place as follows: using however the now Parallax of the Sun, and not Encke's; and assuming the ellipticity of the Earth to be 1.300th.

The central eclipse of August 29th, 1867, begins on the Earth at 0h. 8m. 8 P. M. (meantime of the meridian of Greenwich), at sunrise of the place in the South Pacific ocean, situated in Lat. 36° 24' South, Longitude 84° 59' West, and leaves the Earth at 2h. 17m. 1 P. M. (m. t. G.) at sunset of the place in the South Antarctic Ocean in Lat. 66° 59' South, Long. 83° 7' East.

Duration of the central eclipse on the Earth 2h. 8m. 3. It will be central exactly at noon at 1h. 37,07m (m. to G.) at the place in the South Atlantic Ocean whose Lat. is 46° 40.3' S., Long. 24° 3.1' West

Path of the centre of the Moon's Shadow over South America for every minute of Greenwich meantime.

Table with columns for Time (h. m.), Longitude (m. t. G.), Latitude (South), and Longitude (West). It lists the path of the Moon's shadow across South America from 12:00 to 1:30 PM.

At Buenos Ayres, Monte Video and Maldonado (Island of Gorriti in the harbor) the eclipse will take place as follows, in mean time of each place: —

Table with columns for Location, Eclipse begins (h. m.), Total eclipse (h. m.), and Ends (h. m.). It provides timing for Buenos Ayres, Monte Video, and Maldonado.

When it appears that at these three cities the eclipse will be nearly or quite central.

BANDA ORIENTAL.

Carmelo 3rd Aug 1867.

Since the date of my last we have received another heavy fall of rain, which has filled all the arroyos and cañadas. The weather is beginning to assume more the mildness of spring and the flocks that are lambing are not suffering so much from the severe frosts that lately prevailed. In this district, as in most others, the lambing has been very irregular, but generally the increase has been very good. Notwithstanding the rumored depreciation in the value of sheep, purchasers find it no easy matter to meet with a great bargain, which one might fancy could be encountered at every turn in these dull times. Two English gentlemen have lately been in this neighbourhood, wishing to purchase a flock and settle down here for a short time, to gain some little experience before embarking more extensively in the business. They were offered sheep at 16 reals a head on an English estancia, and, thinking the price too high, they made application at a German estancia, but at this latter establishment the figure was 20 reals. There is no doubt they could buy sheep at a cheaper rate elsewhere, but in very few districts could they have the same advantages as new settlers enjoy here. To new comers especially good neighbours constitute a great blessing; and the next in value is good camp, both of which are to be met with here. Mud ranchos have almost entirely disappeared and the natives along with them. Comfortable brick houses with respectable foreign shepherds now form the rule, and the green hand from home on settling down in this or a similar neighbourhood does not require to rough it so much as when he hoists his flag in the midst of a band of scowling natives. We have now got a clergyman and a couple of pulperins, and if we had a few mounted policemen and a frowning jail, one might almost fancy he was in civilized England or Scotland. It is also to be remarked that the native estancieros are imitating the foreigners by erecting brick puestos, but I was amused

the other day on calling upon a native shepherd to see that he and his family lived in the mud kitchen, while the brick house was used as a store room for all sorts of lumber. It certainly showed the right man in the right place.

THE MORO CAMPS.

Finding the annexed advice, which Mr. Bayley of the Moro gave you, and which you reproduced in your 'Editor's Table' of 28th July, I beg leave to inform you of the following, and which you may transmit to Mr. Bayley, if it is not too much trouble. You may also put it in the shape of an advertisement, for particulars to apply to you. You know my address is at the 'Hotel Oriental, Montevideo.'

I possess the right of six leagues to a piece of land, on the Moro Arroyo, which falls into the ocean in the 'far south,' as you call it. The matter is as follows:—

The ancient Rural Association held a grant of 40 square leagues of land from the Buenos Ayres Government. This they augmented on the south side up to the Moro rivulet, by purchasing this latter land from the Indian Cacique, called Negro. Rivadavia's Government would never acknowledge the right of the Cacique Negro to any land in the province, and a lawsuit commenced, which is still continuing. Rosas' Government also denied the right, but the present Government, the preceding, I mean Saavedra's, granted the right claimed by the present representatives of said now much reduced Ancient Association. But those parties who had petitioned Government to grant them portions of the disputed land on the Moro, and to whom Government had ordained to wait for their decision on the aforesaid lawsuit, have appealed against the last sentence, so that the right of these parties to the Moro land is yet pending.

In that land several parties were concerned, and I am one of them, each claiming a portion of twelve square leagues, one of which is under my name solely; but half of it, belonging to a partner of mine in this right, sold out his six leagues, so that only nine remains, and perhaps the twelve if the other parties agree. But the twelve leagues are in my name.

The sea coast:— No. 1—Twelve leagues, Otamendi, Dn. X. No. 2—Otamendi, the brother Dn. Y. No. 3—Twelve leagues, Etchenaguria, who sold to Lewis Vernet. Nos. 4 and 5—I forget the names of these. Rosas, I know not with what right, granted the piece No. 1 to Mr. Guericco, brother-in-law of Dr. Dn. Valentin, father of the present Governor. The person who purchased my partner's six leagues, has settled in the piece No. 3.

My claim dates from the year 1834, that of the Otamendi's a little further back.

My partner got impatient and would not wait. I have more patience and perseverance, therefore my claim exists. But I am growing very old, and would have no objection to sell my right to a number of English gentlemen, who being younger, and perhaps in a better position for claiming than I am, may have success quicker than I or my children. They may try and get more information, so as to be able to estimate what the right may be worth, and if inclined to treat, I shall also be inclined.

You might advertise:— "For sale, the right to lands on the Arroyo del Moro. Inquire at the Standard office."

I remain, Gentlemen, Yours truly, L. V.

A NEW EXPEDITION TO SOUTH AMERICA.

It is believed that the Lyceum et Natural History of Williams College Massachusetts, is now fitting out an important expedition for South America. The volcanic regions about Quito, though by no means the limit of operations, will be the chief object of attention. This ground, already rendered classic by the visits of Humboldt and others, has never yet been thoroughly examined by scientific men, and it is the hope of the society, under the direction of Professors Orton and Hopkins, both able men, by thorough work to reveal much as yet unknown, and to enrich its own as well as other cabinets of the country with rare and well selected specimens of zoology, mineralogy, &c. The expedition is to set out in July, and will, therefore, arrive in South America in time to make observations on the eclipse which takes place August 29. It is also intended to make accurate meteorological and astronomical observations. The Smithsonian Institute will furnish the necessary instruments.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Yesterday all the foreign Consuls in Buenos Ayres had their flags at half-mast high in memory of the late lamented Maximilian.

The funeral of the late Dr. Palacios took place yesterday, and was very largely attended.

A private letter from Corrientes states that a boat with six Italians was caught in the river Paraguay, recently, trying to force the blockade. The Italians had papers and letters for the enemy, which they tried to submerge, but failed; the papers were taken and sent to the Commander-in-chief.

The opening match of the season will be played on the Cricket grounds at Palermo to-morrow. It is expected that there will be a great attendance at Palermo if the weather be fine, as the match causes much notice.

Mr. O'Farrell, the Engineer of the Gas Company, has resigned his post, and left for Europe in the Uruguay. He will shortly return to the Plate.

The merchants and others of Rosario complain greatly about the very unprotected state of the roads in the interior. It appears that now the bullock-cart men are so intimidated by the constant inroads of the savages that even the most tempting freight can hardly induce them to make a trip to Rosario.

From the camp we hear that almost in every partido there are agents buying up horses for the Brazilian army; the price paid is very high, and even in town good horses are found scarce. We hear Mr. Gregory's charges very favorably spoken of; his stable yard at the corner of Defensa and Mexico is one of the oldest established and best kept in this city; we have tried his saddle horses, and can testify that John Gilpin himself never kept a better horse. We recommend Mr. Gregory's stables; he is the Dyer of Buenos Ayres.

The National Government has sent a despatch to the Governor of Cordova calling upon him to prepare a regiment of 500 men to send to the Paraguayan war. The Governor has so far complied with the request that he has ordered levies in all the partidos.

The Provincial Government has ordered the payment of one million mpc. to the Great Southern Railway, on account of the guarantee.

The plans for cleaning the Riachuelo are now before the Government, and we hope to see something done in the matter. The state of this river is each day becoming worse, and it is with the utmost difficulty that vessels can get up or down.

So important have the capon saladeros become in the camp, that now sheep tallow is becoming an important article of export; we heard of a sale yesterday of 1500 quarterolas from an establishment at Chascomus at 14 1/2 rls. Formerly this article was unknown here as an export.

The walls of the new River Plate Bank building are now going up, although slowly, and on good authority, we hear that in about eight months from date the building will be ready. It promises to be one of the finest edifices in Buenos Ayres and an ornament to the city.

We have very gloomy accounts from Frayle Muerto; the Englishmen up there complain terribly, and we must say with every justice: the place got a splendid start, and had the Government attended to the interests of the colonists, the district would now be one of the most thriving in the Republic, but no protection whatever has been afforded them; the Indians have made frequent inroads, and although the losses have not been heavy, still people never think of settling down there, and indeed the Indian bugbear is doing great harm to Santa Fé also.

We have to thank Dr. Obligado, of Rosario, for his complimentary remarks respecting the Standard. On more than one occasion we have received correspondence for publication from this gentleman which has always proved of a most interesting nature.

Calle Bolivar is now being torn up to be repaved. At the corner of the Plaza the workmen have created a sort of barricade with the old paving-stones. The state of Calle Belgrano is again becoming deplorable, and the coaches with officers, &c., for the Government-house, can now hardly enter the street.

The new buildings going on in town at present are almost innumerable. In every street in the city new houses are going up, and still the cry is for houses. Rents are enormous, and house valuation something like that of estancias some years ago, when a league of land sold for a million of dollars.

The arrival of the Italian steamer Venezia on Sunday from Corrientes caused intense excitement, and before the Port-Captain's 'falua' returned with the news, the mole was crowded to excess. Previous to the publication of the bulletin all of sorts rumours were current, but the official despatch, of Castro, which we publish in English to-day, showed that the allies had been so far successful as to force one of the passes of the Esteros, and for the first time since the war commenced draw their supplies from the enemy's country. Gelly Obes has written a letter to the Port-Captain of Corrientes in his free and easy style, which we also reproduce.

The loan to the National Government by the Bank has to be discussed this week before the Provincial-house of Legislature. We understand that there are not wanting members to oppose it, although it is the general wish that the loan should be made as the National Government has sundry accounts to pay in town; besides, the Custom-house bills will be deposited, which probably is the best security going.

As we approach the period known as Santa Rosa there is a nervous apprehension amongst our ship-captains and others, and owing to the predicted eclipse on the 27th, it is feared that we shall have a terrific gale, inundation, &c. The managers of the Northern and Boca Railways should take timely precaution, as generally speaking these lines suffer most.

Madame Lablache has made her 'debut,' and we are pleased to hear with the greatest success; notwithstanding the strong prejudice against the present company.

The committee of the Senate has reported on the Capital bill designating Rosario as the future capital, and contrary to general expectation has reported favorably on the measure: it will be discussed in the Senate this week and if passed, at once become the law of the land, thus settling this vexed question for at least the next five years, unless some disturbance should occur, which we regret to say is by no means improbable.

There are flying rumours in town that a general citation of the Entre Riano militia has been sent out and that the whole posse comitatus of the province will be assembled on or about the 1st September. People who come down from Entre Rios report everything very quiet up there, and no sign whatever of any disturbance. In the neighborhood of Gualeguaychu there are several sheep-farms on sale; the present is a most favorable opportunity for investing, as in about two months the shearing season begins.

We understand that shortly the Philharmonic Society will give a concert in Montevideo for the benefit of wounded Argentines in the coming battle. The object could not be more meritorious, and we doubt not will realise a very handsome amount.

As to the preparations going on for the reception of the wounded, they would seem rather premature, inasmuch as owing to the position of the army, it is improbable that any wounded can be transported such a distance: it would be far better to establish hospitals at Itapiru and Corrientes, than to attempt to send the poor fellows such a distance.

Mails from the Interior announce that the Government of Salta is making great preparations to give Juan Saa a reception. There seems to be no doubt whatever that this Saa has got together a band of revolutionists, some of the very worst characters that this country ever produced. We hope that Panero will not return until once and for ever this Saa is put down.

We hear with much pleasure that the National Government is about to revoke the edict of banishment against Dr. Navarro Viola, Plaza Montero, and others. We have no doubt this act of clemency, on the part of the National Government will have a most beneficial effect.

Some hay vessel up the river has apparently come to grief, as on the shores of some of the islands several bales have been washed up high and dry; and in front of Colonia some 150 bales have drifted down with the tide.

We omitted to mention that the last advices, received per Quito, announce the departure of some Austrian war vessels for Mexico, to receive the corpse of the unfortunate Maximilian, and convey it to Europe. Santa Anna, who for so many years played such a conspicuous part in Mexican affairs, was caught by the troops of Juarez shortly after he landed, and then and there hung. Such a truly tragic end for a man who ruled so many years over Mexico, is a striking proof of the awful mutability of human affairs.

St. Laurence, we learn, is the patron saint of hotels, and in honor of the saint the hotel-keepers of Montevideo give next Saturday a splendid banquet to the 'hadt-ton' of that city. The hotel-keepers of this city seem to lack the religious reverence of our hosts in Montevideo, as we hear nothing whatever about a St. Laurence banquet. One of the most favorite of Irish saints is St. Laurence O'Toole, who possibly is the very saint which commands such excellent reverence in the sister city. The age of bigotry is fast passing, and we believe if mine host of the La Paix were to give a banquet in honor of the saint, even the strictest Puritan in the city would gladly quaff a goblet of Burgundy to his memory.

One of the Liverpool steamers caused great excitement in Montevideo the other night by whistling vociferously. The Port Captain sent off a boat, half Montevideo came to the Mole-head, and what was the astonishment of the citizens when they learned that the cause of the fuss was that the captain having some mails from Buenos Ayres, wanted to go right on, and washailing for the boat to come off at once for them.

Advices from the far south are of an unfavorable character. The continued frosts have destroyed the grass, and in many places estancieros have been forced to send their sheep and cattle away to better camps. The expense attending these temporary removals is more than what estancieros can well afford; and the estancieros about the Tordillo complain that they are worse off than for years, notwithstanding that in some parts their 'rodeos' and flocks show a good increase.

General Flores and his Ministers have inspected the future site of the proposed Penitentiary, hard by the Cemetery. There is a project before the Provincial Legislature of Buenos Ayres for the establishment of a Penitentiary in this city. We suppose due precaution will be taken as to the walls, so that the prisoners do not escape once a week.

We regret to announce the demise of Dean Palacios, one of the most distinguished and respected members of the chapter of the arch-diocese, who died of cholera yesterday morning, in his 65th year. Deceased was reputed a first-class preacher, and was so popular among the middle classes that he was administrator to the last wills of numbers of our citizens. His last religious function was at the *fiel* of St. Dominick on the 4th inst., since which time he had been complaining. Buenos Ayres has lost a good citizen and a respected clergyman.

On Sunday afternoon the attendance at the Plaza Parque was more numerous and fashionable than ever. In fact, there was hardly standing room on Sunday evening at this fashionable promenade, such was the crowd. All town was there, and the Calles Parque and Tucuman crowded with people going and coming. The Retiro and Palermo road are now totally deserted.

The state coach of the Nat. Government was at the mole the greater part of the day yesterday, many parties thought some great dignitary was expected or some of the Ministers on an excursion in the roads.

Dr. Muniz leaves again for the army, owing to the rumour that soon a great battle will be fought, and Doctors will be required at Corrientes. We cannot too highly praise the zeal of this patriotic physician, and hope to see some other native Doctors follow his example.

The auction at the Banderita, on the Calle Larga, Barracas, came off on Sunday; the house and quinta, the property of Mr. Benjamin Simons, realized the handsome sum of \$148,000 mpc, being eighteen thousand dollars over the price offered before the sale took place.

A very exciting scene occurred the other night in the French Theatre. The gas-lights were by a mishap extinguished, when the order was merely given to reduce the lights for some scenic effect. Our readers can imagine what a row ensued when the whole theatre was plunged into darkness. The French ladies seemed to have lost their presence of mind, for they rushed for the stairs and on the roof. Happily, no disagreeable accident occurred.

All the theatres are prepared to give grand performances when the news of the expected victory arrives. Many private parties are preparing to give sumptuous banquets to celebrate the fall of Lopez, and during the last few days fire-crackers have been the most saleable articles in town. In fact, all Buenos Ayres is on the 'qui vive,' and down in Montevideo similar preparations are going on. The Susan Beirne and Paysandu arrived yesterday, yet, strange to say, no news of the victory.

The alarming rumor respecting the forgery of the National Bonds, calls for the most decided action on the part of the Government. Yesterday, in commercial circles, there was hardly any other topic discussed, as one way or another these bonds have got almost into every banking-house and counting-house in town. Probably the best step for the Government to adopt is to call all the bonds in for inspection. As yet we have no particulars as to how the police got the plates, but we understand that they were discovered out in the Palermo direction.

We have to thank Judge Hollister, United States Consul, for four volumes of 'Diplomatic Correspondence' for the year 1865, published in Washington, by order of Congress. These volumes contain an immense fund of information, and one volume is filled with letters and articles touching the assassination of President Lincoln. We notice various documents respecting this melancholy subject from the Argentine Republic.

A fire took place in the north-west part of the city on Wednesday night, near Calle Uruguay; whole place burnt down: no insurance.

It is a remarkable fact that although the Provincial Bank possesses the very best plates, engines, paper, &c., the office is about to be shut up, and all the notes imported from abroad. The 500 patacon notes struck off by the bank are equal if not superior to the very best notes that have come from Europe, and it really is extraordinary how after going to such great expense in fitting up so excellent an emission department, the directors should come to the conclusion to shut the place up and get their notes printed abroad.

Yesterday the steamer for Corrientes took some officers of high rank to the seat of war: Calle Belgrano was crowded with military men to say farewell.

We learn with pleasure that our countryman Mr. E. de Rutzen has purchased a fine establishment in the province of Entre Rios, on the river Yerná, near the Uruguay known as Barclay's Estancia. The price paid is reserved, but cheap, a decided bargain. Mr. de Rutzen has certainly proved his sound judgment and knowledge of the country by this excellent investment. The legal valuation last year of the two leagues of land, houses sheep, cattle, mares, &c. amounted to little less than nine thousand pounds sterling. The estancia contains two square leagues prime land, 4000 head of horned cattle, 9000 mestiza sheep, 600 mares, fine estancia-house with large corrales.

The fashionable world will learn with regret that the weekly soirees at the Minister of Foreign Affairs, have been temporarily suspended.

The Albatross, Messrs. Casares new steamer is now regularly plying between this port and Rosario. She gives the highest satisfaction and is a first class river steamer.

The turnkey of the Penitentiary has published a statement about the escape of the prisoners, it appears that the first attempt to make a hole in the wall was detected: three Englishmen prisoners were the parties, subsequently the native convicts tried their hand and fully succeeded. The matter reflects little credit on the prison discipline, and the turnkeys or gaoler should be held responsible.

Our colleague the *Nacion* comes down very severely on the *Tribuna* for its birth day article; we believe however that the *Tribuna* has good reason to feel proud of its position, and as to the article in question, if the *Nacion* was a careful reader of 'Harper's magazine,' our colleague would have seen some few months ago a chapter on the getting up of the magazine, almost identical in style with that of the *Tribuna*.

The arming of Entre Rios is the question of the day; the Entre Riano Government has published in its official organ, Gelly Obes' despatch, asking for a loan of the arms which Entre Rios had, and promising to return them which promise owing to the continuance of the war, has never been fulfilled. Governor Dominguez, in view of the unsettled state of affairs, has therefore purchased arms to replace those lent, and from the tone of the Entre Riano journal it is pretty evident that Entre Rios seems determined to assert her right as an independent province.

The National Government is about to negotiate a loan for two millions patacones, with the Provincial Bank. We publish the note of Governor Alsina to the Legislature, it being entirely within the jurisdiction of the Directors; but we are all so terribly straight-laced that the legislature must consulted on every occasion in fact we should be afraid to ask the bank for money for the *Standard*, for fear the matter might be sent before the Legislature.

Yesterday morning Sr. Hernandez, the active sergeant of the city detective force, discovered a nest of robbers in the Plaza Once. For some time the authorities have been on the look-out for these gentlemen, whose depredations were the constant theme of society. Amongst the latest victims was an unfortunate dealer in the Boca, who was robbed of thirty gold ounces. Hernandez, who had been long on the 'qui vive,' having at length got scent, tracked the fellow up to the Plaza Victoria, where he was coolly swelling it, thence he followed him to the corner of Calles José and Belgrano, when he turned into a suspicious-looking tavern closely, followed by Hernandez. At the sight of the policeman 'mine host' manifested much confusion, when, by dint of threats and promises, he finally consented to relinquish his ill-gotten goods. In this way, having secured all he could lay his hands on, \$15,000 mpc, 6 ounces, 16 sovereigns, and a magnificent gold watch and chain, quite new, Hernandez returned to the police office in company with the delinquent; who will doubtless be able to lay bare the whole business. It appears that numbers are concerned in this robbery, and who also make it a point to attend every 'funcion' or meeting to rob pick pockets of the public.

Sr. Ocampos has as we conjectured been re-elected as Deputy for Parana. This means another great fight in Congress.

The Paraguayans it seems in the upper Parana, crossed the river and attacked large troops of bullock-carts with Brazilian stores. They were beaten back to their boats, and Portinho has sent some troops to keep guard on the river.

The enormous land speculations at present going on in Rosario have attracted great attention in this city, and given rise to the suspicion that the business is not limited to Rosario brokers and Santa Fé land-jobbers. As we view the business we see nothing whatever illicit in it; we have grave doubts however as to the ultimate success of the speculation, and strongly believe that before the business terminates people will be in just as great a hurry to sell as they are now to buy. Those who bought Parana property on the strength of the capital being there, have survived the folly and although Rosario doubtless possesses immense advantages over Parana and is a rising city of importance, still the real capital of this Republic is the Custom-house of Buenos Ayres, and all the Congress men in the country cannot move that; the present delusion therefore is innocent so far as it gives room for legitimate speculation, but highly criminal inasmuch as it will lead to another civil war, for it is but an idle dream that Buenos Ayres can be united to the Provinces, experience has proved that the Provinces must be united to Buenos Ayres. How many Congress men have bought lots in Rosario we are not prepared to say, nor even to affirm that a single Deputy or Senator has a square inch of property in the new capital. The people who figure as purchasers are names unconnected with Argentine Legislature, but yet the city is full of rumors most damaging to the reputation of independent representatives. It is difficult however to escape slander, and in Buenos Ayres next to impossible. People of an uncharitable disposition must be talking. The Deputies at present have a very extraordinary reputation; time will yet tell how they deserve it. Meanwhile it seems a far safer speculation to buy one of Huergo's deposits hard by the Custom-house, no matter how dear, than Rosario building lots at an ounce a square.

The Susan Beirne is hourly expected in port with the news of the fall of Lopez, Humaita, Tuyuti and Uncle Sunday. The excitement to hear the news is really greater than ever. The thunder on Tuesday night was mistaken for guns from Martin Garcia fortress: many anxious to sift the matter hurried to the Port Captain's at 9 o'clock, but the lightning soon persuaded them that the reports in question came from the celestial artillery.

The Hay business is now greatly on the decline and in another month we believe it will be brought to a wind up. The average price the barraqueros got for bailing was \$35 per bale. Some barraqueros made a very nice thing of it, but now the business gives nothing.

The President has named Don Justino Juarez to the post of Vice-Rector of the Mendoza College.

The discovery of forged plates for the manufacture of National Bonds has caused the most intense excitement amongst speculators. The affair looks so ugly that we believe Government will be obliged to call up all the bonds for revision.

D. Juan Carlos Gomez's article on the capital, annexing the Banda Oriental and Walkerizing Montevideo, has created an immense sensation in the sister city. The Orientals are not at all anxious to have their city made the capital of the Argentine Republic; in fact they decline the honor in toto, and Dr. Gomez has lost all his prestige in Montevideo owing to his very novel ideas on the subject.

Many parties are anxious to know when will the Argentine Central Railway be open to Villa Nueva. We had thought, on the first of this month, but suppose that the delay is unavoidable; probably about the 15th the new portion of the line will be open to public traffic.

The Plaza Parque is now the great rendezvous of fashion on Sundays and Holidays. We understand that the crowd there in the afternoon on Sundays is something hitherto unknown in Buenos Ayres. It is a pity that the Plaza is so small, there is hardly standing room for the people. We want a St. Stephen's Green in Buenos Ayres.

The case of the lost English vessel, Prince Albert, in the Paraná, has never yet been settled. Luckily the captain got back all his papers from the Government-house before the fire, but still it is really a monstrous thing that the poor captain should be delayed so long. The Minister, of course, repudiates all responsibility, and we fear there is nothing for him but to come up before the Federal Court; the case must then wait a long time to be tried, owing to the numerous suits to be heard and still pending.

In reply to Mr. Rom's accusation of mismanagement in the working of the Western Railway, the minister proved to the chamber. 1st. That Sor Larroude's proposal had not been accepted because of its over-estimate, the best proof of the fact being, that the line was actually worked at almost 20 per cent. less. 2nd. His Excellency maintained that instead of the traffic having fallen off in the last year as Mr. Rom stated, it had on the contrary steadily increased and the receipts shew a difference on the right side of almost a million mpc. as compared with those of 1865—thus, H. E. observed, I need not now waste more time in the discussion: by a momentary glance at the books it will be seen that a net per cent. of 50 has been realized over the preceding year and this simple fact is alone sufficient to refute all such frivolous arguments. But should any doubt yet remain as to this development of the Passenger traffic, I feel the following dates and figures taken from table H. of the Finance Report will carry conviction home to the minds of even the most incredulous.

Passengers	Dollars
1863 409,120	\$ 3,054,874 mpc.
1864 414,722	3,475,895
1865 448,431	4,562,927
1866 325,928	5,383,397

These figures have been carefully framed and one should therefore be slow to impeach them, but if they err at all, it is on the right side as allowance should be made for the reduction of fares, likewise for return tickets, 550,000 of which were issued last year.

An English gentleman who went up to Cordova to purchase the great estate 60 square leagues, with numerous estancia houses and puestos thereon, has returned without concluding a bargain. Indeed it is difficult to suppose that with the present disturbed state of things in the interior, any man would invest such a very large sum as is required to purchase the place. We regret sincerely to learn that the Angola goat business is not at all giving the results anticipated, in fact those who have embarked in the business have lost very heavily. One Englishman who had been up in Cordova engaged in the goat business has come down and gone home in the Borgogne, thoroughly disgusted with Cordova and its goats.

The last advices we have from San Juan, report the 6th Regiment of Rifles under Gutierrez being despatched by Arredondo to look after the rebel leader Varela, who is represented as prowling about in the mountains at the head of a few men.

The once splendid American steamer Julia is now lying alongside Sherman's ship-yard: all the houses and cabins on deck have been completely washed away, yet even though a wreck she looks a splendid vessel and we doubt not in Lanuz's hands will be completely remodelled and repaired.

The opera on Friday night was not to say a signal success. The Prima Donna we hear sings well, but other members of the company come in for loud abuse. As the manager has usurped our box we can only speak from hearsay as to this celebrated company.

IMPORTANT FROM THE INTERIOR.

(From an occasional Correspondent.)

Mendoza, July 24th 1867.

Since my last, the political aspect of the Andine provinces has undergone very little change for the better, and affairs still look anything but settled in the northern districts, whilst in the South we have been treated to another of those "Indio-Christian" invasions so fatal and frequent since the scattering of the "Colorados" by Panero at San Ignacio.—The "Fort" of San Rafael, 70 leagues to the South of this town, has just been the scene of some tragic exploits on the part of the Indians led by the rebel chief Perez, who at the head of some 600 savages surprised the garrison, possessing themselves of the suburbs and greater part of the town, and murdering indiscriminately the unfortunates who could not effect their escape to the plaza. Col. Segovia had his handful of men stationed in the square, entrenched and fortified, and were it not for this refuge the entire population, consisting of over a thousand souls, would have fallen victims to the savages. This sudden attack was a *quid pro quo* for Segovia's recent success in the "tolderias," and as such an event might naturally have been expected much blame is attachable to "some body" for the state of abandonment and want of precautionary measures palpably essential in such close proximity to an infuriated enemy. We are told that Segovia was without fire-arms, or at least was devoid of supplies of suitable ammunition, notwithstanding his urgently repeated applications for this most essential *matériel*. The Government had remitted him some 300 packages of ball cartridges a short time previous to the attack, and on distributing them amongst the soldiers they were found to be useless for the emergency of the moment. Not a cartridge would enter a single carbine in the fort!! being of a size much larger than the calibre of the "Regulation" weapon! Why cannot our War Minister determine that *all* the national armament be of the same bore? as is the case in nearly every civilized army, a most necessary precaution to avoid such fatal blunders as that of San Rafael. Thanks to the personal bravery of Col. Segovia and a few faithful adherents, who made several sorties armed simply with lance and sabre, he eventually drove back the hordes of savages, obliging them to retire with considerable loss, not however before burning down several houses, massacring a number of the inhabitants and completely sweeping off everything in the shape of a quadruped, leaving Segovia literally a foot, for want of his splendid stud of horses recently sent down from here, all of which fell into the hands of the Indians—

Of course on arrival of the news here, forces were got under way at once and Col. Martinez de Hoz marched with a strong detachment and two guns to relieve the besieged fort, for the Indians, well knowing Segovia's impotency to give them chase, only retired a short distance off whence they may again attempt a similar raid.—

Again, nearer home has this wretched province been the scene of a *bijou* edition of the late revolution. A few days ago a party of 'gauchos' attacked the 'Subdelegation' of Villa San Martin, about 15 leagues from town, capturing the guard (who afterward joined them) and liberating all the prisoners. They immediately seized various respectable people in the neighborhood, whom they carried off and exacted from them on pain of death severe contributions. Happily the news came in, and at once an active young officer (brother to Col. Segovia of San Rafael) got together some 50 men of the line; adopting in a military point of view a rather novel but decidedly efficacious mode of transport namely that of seizing on the instant all the hackney coaches to be found in the streets and mounting five men in each he dashed off at full gallop, and before the rebels were aware of his presence he was upon them capturing nearly all, and shooting two whom he found as outposts on guard, thus crushing in the bud, by a little pluck and energy, what might have been developed into a serious revolutionary movement. This spirited young fellow, D. Augusto Segovia, is now the popular candidate for the vacant Governorship of Mendoza, and as far as public opinion can be a guide in such matters there seems to be every probability of his return. He is well known here, much liked, energetic and judicious, and well adapted for the post in the present anarchical state of society.

In the North, we are assured by Panero, that matters will be brought

to a successful and definite issue within a few days: *ojala!* I believe there are reasonable grounds for accepting this assurance, as Varela & Co. seem to hemmed in on all sides by the national forces, but he is such a slippery character that although his force may be broken-up and dispersed his 'august' person will doubtless come out unscathed, and within a short time afterward we may hear of his incorporation with Saa, Videla & Co. who have disembarked at Cobija with 300 and odd men well armed. Should the news respecting those chiefs and their late proceedings be true, as regards the shipment of arms and munitions of war from Chile, then there has been a serious breach of the neutrality laws, committed by our transandine neighbours, and one that strenuously demands explanation and satisfaction to our Government.

Turning to more peaceful and not less interesting subjects, I have much pleasure in announcing a most important discovery recently made in this Province, and one that may, if increasingly productive, prove the best 'General' and put an end to the fratricidal struggles which desolate these unhappy provinces.

We have been hearing for a long time past of the existence in various districts in the Republic of 'carbon de piedra' or at least so called by many, who ought to have known better than to class a bituminous shale amongst our true coals. In the year 1862 the Government Inspector General of Mines, Major Rickard, examined and reported on several deposits of bituminous shales in the provinces of San Juan and Mendoza, and of some fair specimens found near Los Marayes (La Huerta) he published an analysis expressing an opinion that, if borings were made to a considerable depth, the probabilities would be in favor of discovering seams of a better and more definitely pronounced form and composition. I also find laid down on the map which accompanies Major Rickard's work published in 1863, these coal-formations are described as about three square leagues in extent. But, as nobody in these provinces or the Republic was found either patriotic enough or commercially interested to explore the deposits, the matter was forgotten and like many other interesting and important industries allowed to lie unproductive and valueless until some more energetic race steps forward to develop them. Thus it has been with the present discovery of true coal in this province: D. Antonio Cantos, a Chilean metallurgist, finding copper-smelting dull in Chile, last year determined to explore the hidden wealth of the once famous "Pamillio mines" near Uspallata, and, being satisfied with their appearance and promise, his next step was to ascertain the existence of a fuel suitable for smelting the ores, too poor to export in an unconcentrated or crude state. He determined to sink a shaft on one of the out-cropping shale seams in the immediate vicinity of the mines, and at a depth of some sixteen varas cut a thin seam (about 8 inches thick) of first class *cannel coal*, about whose combustible properties no doubt can possibly exist. And as far as simple experiments have gone, in burning it as ordinary coal in a common stove, nothing can be more satisfactory.

As to its chemical composition I can as yet say little or nothing with certainty, but expect in the course of a few days to have a complete scientific description of it in all its phases from Major Rickard, who has taken to his laboratory a large specimen for analysis. I shall send you by next opportunity a full account of this most important substance. Meanwhile I transmit you by this post a small specimen for your museum. It strongly resembles mineral pitch, and approaches as near as possible a pure *jet* so much esteemed for ornaments, and recently so much used by the fair sex.

Commercially speaking, this discovery is for the moment valueless, and will continue so unless a more abundant seam be cut at greater depth: of course great enthusiasm exists amongst the parties directly interested, and the works are being carried out with energy. I am, however, inclined to fear that, in case of ill success, for a short time the enterprise will be abandoned for want of capital or perseverance on the part of the present owners, and in such case it would be the duty of the National Government to spend a few hundred dollars in having borings made all over the district, as also in Las Marayes, San Juan. They have all the necessary tools and implements as used in the unsuccessful Artesian well experiments, and their employment in this most important branch of internal wealth and industry would be a most judicious and meritorious move. Should this coal (which is the

best and most expensive in England for gas-producing purposes) exist in large quantities here, this fact alone would most materially influence future projects and views in reference to railway extension to the Andine provinces. A sample has been forwarded to Mr. Wheelwright who will perceive its superiority and the importance of the discovery. The deposit is distant about 22 leagues from this town, but at a distance of two leagues to the westward from the plaza a similar schistose formation exists, and should abundance of coal be found in the Pamillio there is no reason why it should not be found in equal quantities at this place of this, more in my next. *Tupungato.*

THE CENTRAL ARGENTINE RAILWAY.

Buenos Ayres, Aug. 7, 1867.

To the Honorable National Legislative Congress,—

By date 23rd February last the Directors of the Central Argentine Railway apprised the Minister of Interior of the difficulties they met in fulfilling their contract of opening the line to the city of Cordova. From what the manager therein states it appears that of the 80,000 shares which represent the capital of the company but 50,000 have been subscribed for, and these, as is well known, are for the most part held by the original projectors and founders of the company. The capital subscribed, at the rate of £20 sterling per share, amounts to £1,000,000 sterling, which barely suffices to lay the line to Villa Nueva. The deficit, therefore, of £600,000 must be supplied by emitting new shares, or else raise it by mortgage, as empowered by the company's statutes; but, according to the note above referred to, the depreciation of the shares in the London market renders it impossible to meet the difficulty in that quarter by the creation of new shares, and for the same reason it will be almost impossible to effect a mortgage on the company's property whilst the stock is at such a discount.

The Director in consequence solicits the assistance of the Argentine Government, in whatever way it may deem most convenient for the public welfare.

The Minister, in reply 27th April, expressed his lively desire to assist by every means in his power in extricating the company from its present difficulties, offering to subscribe the sum of £350,000 in National Bonds of six per cent., equivalent to £300,000 at seven per cent.—the same rate paid on the capital employed—as likewise the Government guarantee. Should this suffice, the writer added, he would at once lay the matter before Congress, and have it sanctioned without delay. To this the Directors replied on 8th June, stating that they will raise half the amount by mortgage on condition that the remaining £300,000 be paid cash.

The financial position of the company, as hereby shown, and the valuable national interests therein involved, counsel that no sacrifice should be omitted, at any cost, to carry out the objects of the line in the shortest time possible.

The Executive therefore has no hesitation in asking V. L.'s sanction to the subjoined project for subscribing £300,000 to the Central Argentine Railway, considering that not only do we thus assist one of the most necessary National enterprises, but at the same time in a most lucrative and safe business, whether you take it that the Company pay 7 p. c. as guarantee on the working capital, or as part of the nett receipts during the working, or yet the probabilities of a still greater gain than any guarantee from the public lands lying along the line, and whose value will be considerably enhanced by the attraction thither of the entire business of the Republic. The time necessary spent in these negotiations render it incumbent on the contractors to extend the time specified in the original agreement, and which up to the present has been so faithfully observed.

God preserve your Chambers.
MARCOS PAZ.
RAWSON.

Project.

The Senate and Chamber of Deputies of the Argentine Nation united in session, hereby sanction by force of—

Law.

Art. 1. The Executive is authorized to subscribe for 15,000 shares of the Central Argentine Railway at £20 each.

Art. 2nd. Authorizes the Executive to draw upon the National credit for necessary funds to fulfil the foregoing article.

Art. 3rd. Prorogues the period fixed in the original contract for the conclusion of the line to Cordova.

G. RAWSON.

ROSARIO.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.) August 6, 1867.

An important question is now being debated in the capital of this province. It has reference to the offices of 'Escribanos' or Notaries Public. This office is inherited from the old Roman Jurisprudence, and exists in Spain, and consequently in all the nations of Latin origin in America, in France, and in Italy. The Anglo-Saxon races have eschewed this part of the Roman system, and our Notary Public occupies no judicial standing. The attorney, the registrar, and private individuals themselves do the work that in countries of Latin origin is agglomerated in the 'Escribanos' office. In the language of the law the 'Escribano,' or Public Notary, is here the depositary of public faith or trust. Besides being the only persons authorized to draw out wills, contracts of every description, and giving testimony and certifying in all and every judicial case, be it criminal or civil; they are also the only legal drawers of deeds and mortgages of property, and they are the only registrars of the same. Such a multiplicity of important duties are by law attached to these offices, that the 'Escribano' in this country, and in all others where the institution prevails, is a personage infinitely more important than the lawyer and the judge. The influence he exercises is almost unbounded, as is also his sphere for malversation and all kind of wrong-doing; and yet, as a general rule, with very rare exceptions, the 'Escribano' is very far from being an educated man. On the contrary, he is much oftener an ignorant, vulgar, and unscrupulous man, without any legal knowledge, and with an education of a most limited character, in which the knowledge of Latin rarely enters. In fact, the office of 'Escribano,' formerly in the jurisprudence of nations considered highly respectable, has been so degraded, that it is now occupied only by third or fourth-rate men; and yet these men are the depositaries of the faith, honor, and trust of the community. It is evident that there is 'something rotten in the state of Denmark.'

The worst feature in this system is, that the 'Escribanos' are recorders and registrars of title-deeds of property. It is easy to understand how unscrupulous owners of these insecure offices may commit with impunity all kinds of frauds, as they constantly do.

By some kind of unaccountable anomaly, the offices of 'Escribanos' are private property, transferable by sale, lease, or donation; and only by some general laws, scarcely ever applied, are they answerable to the authorities.

About three years ago the lamented Dr. Campillo, then Minister to this Government, one of the most upright and intelligent lawyers in the country, was commissioned to examine and overhaul the 'Escribanos' in Rosario. The result was published in a 'Report,' and a series of most scandalous doings was brought to light. According to Dr. Campillo the 'Escribanos' were little better than dens of thieves. The public was startled; for although the general opinion qualified these offices as regular fraud establishments, in which rascals enriched themselves at the expense of honest people, the extent of the iniquities practised was not generally known. The owner of one had removed to Buenos Ayres: he was cited to appear at our tribunals, but never answered the summons. It was then that the Government, acting under the enlightened advice of Dr. Campillo, issued a decree expropriating all the 'Escribanias,' paying their owners according to valuation, and thus by becoming owners of these offices, to be able to place at their head competent and honest men, amenable in their every act to the Government, and thus restore the confidence of the public and protect their rights.

This decree was applauded by every one; but within the last few days the Judicial Commission, in the Legislative Assembly, has presented a bill to the House to have the Decree of the Executive rescinded as unconstitutional. The opinion, however, of many legal men is in favor of the Government. Mine is decidedly so, because I think it preposterous that offices that are public registries should be private property, and thus be placed beyond the control of the Government. I think that there can be no more just cause of expropriation (paying their value) than that of the 'Escribanias.'

The whole system of the transfer of property is defective in this country. What a contrast to ours. With us any one can make out a deed from a blank form, and at a cost of sixpence or a shilling. All that is to be done then is to take it to the Recorder's Office, always a 'strong fire-proof

building, and have it registered in large clean books kept for the purpose, in which a copy of the deed is written out. The original document is then returned, and the whole operation does not cost more than a few shillings.

By-the-bye, I forgot to correct you in a statement that appeared in the *Standard*, about the murder of an engine-driver on the railroad. I cannot imagine where you pick up your information. It is entirely false; no such thing happened on the road or anywhere else.

I have received a small parcel of cotton from Mendoza, which I intend to forward to Liverpool. It is very fair, equal to Middlings Upland. This cotton can be produced in Mendoza at five cents per pound. The transportation to Rosario would be from \$2½ to \$3 Bol. the quintal. (The cotton is unginéd). At present prices it might pay if the cotton could be ginned in Mendoza.

Mr. Oroño started for Santa Fé the moment that the question of the capital was opened in Congress, in order to get the offered cession of Rosario to the nation accepted by the Provincial Chambers. In four and twenty hours the law was on its way to Buenos Ayres. Oroño returned immediately, and at once started for the frontier. He is expected back tomorrow or next day.

The engineer of the gas works is now in Rosario to commence operations. The law authorising the Executive to appropriate a piece of land near the river is passed, and there is nothing now to prevent the contractor from commencing operations at once. The advent of the capital in Rosario makes Mr. Artigas' contract valuable.

Silveyra's project for supplying the city with water has been sanctioned by the Legislatura. The Executive vetoed the bill, on the plea that the more proper course would be to call for public proposals, and by this means the city would probably get better terms. Mr. Silveyra's contract is a monopoly I think for thirty years, at the end of which term the works revert to the Municipality. Water will be supplied at very moderate terms—a pipe, through which eight pipes will pass during the day, will only cost twelve Bolivian reals a month. Now we have to pay at the rate of dollars a month for a supply that does not exceed fifty gallons per diem.

The rails of the Central Argentine Railway are laid to Villa Nueva, and I suppose in a few days the road will be opened to the public. Locomotives run up to the Villa Nueva Station. Mr. Bonham deserves all praise. So determined was he to have the rails down by the 31st of July, that for some nights he worked by the light of great bonfires. The bricks in some of the culverts were actually laid before the heat of the kilns was cooled out of them. Late on the day of the 31st two lengths of rails were down beyond the station, amidst the hearty cheers of all the workmen. The station-house is in rapid process of construction.

The arrivals of produce from the Andine Provinces have been limited in comparison with the large stock on hand in Mendoza and San Juan. The road is considered dangerous, on account of the deprivations of the Indians and the 'gauchos.' Several 'tropas' have been stopped and the animals carried off. Ten and eleven Bol. per ar. has been offered in those provinces for 'tropas,' and has been refused. The usual price of freight is from five to six rs. The scarcity of produce from the Interior has consequently affected not only the commercial part of the community from the non-payment of outstanding debts, but also the shipping interest.

The excitement in this last month was caused by the action taken by Congress in reference to the capital. People are speculating not only on the general increased value of town property, when the city becomes 'federalised,' but on the very localities which it is supposed will be required for the public buildings. So inflated have the prices become that disappointment, in the question of the capital, would cause a general tumble-down. However, I do not allow myself to doubt on the subject, although I have no interest in town lots. I have always spoken and felt on this subject from an idea superior to all local interests. Once united in bonds of peace and fraternity, the two Provinces of B. Ayres and Santa Fé, the capital in Rosario is the solidification of the Argentine Union. The wealth, prosperity, and progress of Santa Fé is of more importance to Buenos Ayres than even to herself, for Santa Fé will be the means of bringing within the pale of civilisation and industry those eccentric and turbulent bodies, known as the Upper Provinces.

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