

THE WEEKLY STANDARD

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BUENOS AYRES, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4, 1867.

CIRCULATION 2,500

THE SITUATION.

The general state of affairs in this Republic to-day calls for comment. At no period since the Mitre Administration came into power have matters assumed such a critical character as at present. The political world is convulsed, owing to the impending Presidential elections. The commercial world is frightened, in consequence of the continued decline in staple articles of manufacture, and the agricultural and farming can only be represented as undergoing a serious crisis, to which as yet it is impossible to put a limit. Touching political affairs, it is impossible to arrive at any definite opinion as to whether our Argentine barque is drifting. The real candidates for the Presidency have not yet come on the hustings; neither is it probable that before the election they will show their hands; but we have no hesitation in stating that the real *bona fide* candidates for the post are Rufino Elizalde, ex-Minister of Foreign Affairs, and Adolfo Alsina, actual Governor of Buenos Ayres.

Both of these parties have played distinguished parts in their country's history. Dr. Elizalde has so long ruled at the National Government House that it is considered he would be more *au fait* in the Presidential Chair than the Governor. Besides this, the talents and abilities of Dr. Elizalde are acknowledged to be of the highest order. As a lawyer, he is second to none in his overcrowded profession; as a Minister, he has, even amongst his political adversaries, won an acknowledgement of his talents. His abilities shine through every page of his country's history for the last fifteen years; and, with the countenance of President Mitre, and the support of what is called the National Party in Buenos Ayres and the provinces, many regard as certain the election of this talented Argentine to this elevated position.

Governor Alsina, on the other hand, is the rising apostle of what is termed the Argentine Party, and the hero of young Buenos Ayres. Like many others, he owes his position to a family name: his father may be said to head the list of distinguished Argentines of the present day. Pushed forward by his party to the post of Governor the public were willing to give the son of Dn. Valentin Alsina a trial, and, by a freak of good luck, the new Governor initiated his administration by one of the most beneficial measures ever passed in Buenos Ayres—the Exchange-office, or fixing the value of the fluctuating paper dollar.

This admirable measure has given a prestige to Governor Alsina's Government, which, combined with the fact that the Governor is probably the only man in the Republic who can satisfactorily settle the capital question, leads to the belief that the same good luck which made him Governor of Buenos Ayres will lift him over the heads of all opponents, and make him second President of the Republic.

As to the other candidates who figure in the papers, we have nothing to remark, none of them having even the ghost of a chance. It is idle to consider their merits; the time is fast approaching when this vexed question will be decided. As to the vote of the people being consulted, this is at best but a delusion. The Presidency will be decided by the wire-pulling politicians; whoever pulls strongest, lougest, and best, wins the day. All the wire-pulling going on at present is confined to the provinces, where, as a natural consequence, there is nothing but uproar and confusion. Next month it will probably commence in this city, and there can be little doubt that the vote and influence of Buenos Ayres will, in the end, gain the day. But it would be happy for the country if its troubles were, as formerly, of a purely political stamp. On the contrary, the general state of trade, and the downright ruin which stares the sheep-farmers are matters of far greater importance. There is to-day nothing short of a panic in the wool market, which might in a great measure be alleviated if we had a Fould or a Gladstone at the helm of financial affairs. The export tax in the present state of the wool market is not only

unjustifiable, but impolitic. The Custom House value of mestiza wool is exorbitant, and, upon the whole, the farmers have every just cause of complaint against the Government; but, notwithstanding all we have said on this subject, it seems impossible to get the Finance Minister to interfere. Meanwhile, there are farmers selling their wool to-day at a decline of \$35 per ar. from last year's price. That things will become worse before they get better we have very strong reason to believe, but, as the whole nation is occupied with the question of the Presidency, we can look for no hope for the farmer until politicians, to their cost, discover that, although it takes long years of toil to build up a staple, it may perish in an hour by misdirected legislation and colossal taxation.

MONTEVIDEAN AMATEUR THEATRICALS.

It is a subject of regret to your subscribers here, that the *Standard* was 'non est inventus' at the amateur performance on Tuesday night. Neither the races at the Cerrito, nor the Japanese iron-clad in the harbour, were matters half so interesting to the English public here as the recent theatricals at San Felipe. The *Standard* missed a bit by not being present on the occasion, and rather than that it be said that so deservedly successful a performance could find no place in the columns of the *Standard*, simply because the venue was laid in Montevideo, your quondam and much-abused correspondent, "Zozimus" rises from the footlights to give you a full, true, and perfect version of the affair.

If the decline of the British drama is to our friends at home a bitter fact, on the wings of your morning edition then acquaint the world that its resuscitation has taken place in Montevideo. There are Helen Fawcets in our salas, and Macreadys in every counting-house in this city, which, until the amateur performance on Tuesday night, none in this benighted town ever supposed. With all your crack actors in Buenos Ayres, can you produce one that can walk the boards with the O'Connor Don, whose perfect delineation of the Irish character would make even Barney Williams stare. Ireland, with all its faults and sorrows is, nevertheless, the birthplace of true genius. It would be ungenerous, on my part, to refuse this admission; potatoes and wit seem to go hand-in-hand. Take the compliment, Gentlemen, for it is deserved. Englishmen and Scotchmen may have retentive memories, and know their parts to perfection, but Paddy requires no rehearsal in matters either ludicrous or sublime. Yet let me not be charged with drawing comparisons. All the players acted their parts imitatively, and it is the general desire of the public that another performance for some charitable purpose be given, if not for the hospital, why not for the widows Mr. Gould brought from Paraguay? or for a new office for your agent, Sprunck? or for a new iron safe for Seymour?—

At 7.30 p.m., the doors of the San Felipe were thrown open, and if you had only been on the spot to see the crowds of lovely Oriental beauties that flocked to that gay and festive scene. The account of the races is excellent, but it is nothing, compared to what might have been written about the theatricals. Every box was sold, and had there been three times the number they could easily have been disposed of. As it was, some were sold as high as thirty dollars.

Amongst the audience we noticed the respected and highly esteemed hospital doctor and his fair Señora, Mr. and Mrs. Havelis, and their charming daughters; our worthy Consul and family, H.E. Sr. Marquez, Minister of Finance; Mr. and Mrs. McCall and family; Mr. and Mrs. Towers, Mr. and Mrs. Carlisle, Mr. and Mrs. Dr. Lisle, your ex-agent, Mr. Oranwell, and his lovely bride; Mr. and Mrs. Lafone, Captain Tychon Browne and officers; Captain Wilson and officers; Mr. and Mrs. and Miss Hughes, and a large number of naval officers, besides many ladies and gentlemen, a list of whom would occupy too much of your valuable space.

The performance, as you are already aware, commenced with "Our Clerks." The piece is a difficult one, and it would be useless for me to mention any one of the actors in particular, as the parts were all most perfectly rendered. If anything, these young men taking the ladies' parts deserve special mention; their get up was perfection itself, and when the two babies were produced the roars of laughter made the whole building shake. So much for "Our Clerks."

During the interval we noticed all the young swells in lavender kids, handing about ices to the fair in the boxes, among whom we had a new beauty, a Miss H—, who was accompanied by Mr. H. E. E—, and at whom every opera-glass in the house was directed.

And now came Lieut. Fullersen, with his excellent troop of minstrels. Too much praise cannot be given him for the perfection in dress and execution, both vocal and instrumental, of his corps. There riddles were exquisite, but I will only give you one that was at your expense, viz.: "Why is the Buenos Ayres *Standard* like a butler?" "Because it has to do with all the Plate."

Morton's farce of the "Irish Tiger," next on the programme, was already well known to all of us, but Mr. O'Connor and our friend Mr. Clark, the king of shipbrokers, will always draw a full house, their acting (Mr. O.C.'s we can hardly call acting, as it seems to come natural to him) being so good, and we are only sorry to hear that the latter gentleman intends this to be his last appearance on the boards. Everybody was in roars, and we were much afraid that, notwithstanding the large sprinkling of disciples of Esculapuis in the theatre, others would have to be called in to administer restoratives to the fair sex, who were actually going into fits.

But the finale beat everything ever seen in the River Plate, not excepting the immortal Phillips himself. The grotesque dresses, and the musical accompaniment to the "Darkies' Walk to Dixy," is beyond the powers of the writer to describe; to be fully appreciated it has to be seen.

The performance terminated at about midnight, when the actors and their friends adjourned to Seymour's renowned saloon, where your correspondent had the pleasure of seeing them enjoy a first-class supper, to say nothing of the quantity of champagne they drank and the good old songs they sang, their rendering of "Auld Lang Syne" being splendid.

The result comes fully up to the expectations of the committee, leaving about \$800 m.p. for the hospital. The general opinion, as far as I can make out, seems to be the same as mine, viz.: That it was the best amateur performance ever got up in Montevideo. ZOZIMUS.

BANDA ORIENTAL.

Carmelo, Nov. 28th 1867. The shearing in this neighbourhood is now over, but farmers seem to be in no hurry this year to send their wool to market. Without a doubt this is the blackest year of all in the Sheep-farmers' calendar. Never has the wool market been in such a depressed state, and never have rents and labor led so high. How it will all end it is unpleasant to attempt to foretell. It may be that the poor sheep is destined to work the ruin of as many in South America as the potatoe did years ago in Ireland. Many talk of clearing out for the town while it is in their power to do so, and it is not unlikely that the days are again coming round when wild cattle and wilder gauchos with a few rash and ragged foreigners will be the only denizens of the camp. Government lately issued an order for the protection of ostriches, but up till now it has done nothing to assist the sheepfarmer. In fact the sheep interest has stood alone without a friend, and has been regarded only as a common way on which all might feed. Things have at last reached a crisis, and in the various remedies proposed by farmers themselves, the poor sheep seem likely to suffer for the bad fortune of their masters. "Throw them into tubs and wash them to increase the value of the wools," cries the most merciful one. "Pitch them

into vats and steam them down for tallow," says another. "Cut them into quarters and cure their hams for Europe," shouts a third; but will dipping, steaming or ham curing save our bacon?

In the camp hereabouts there are buyers of wool but at very low rates. At the commencement of the season some were so lucky as to sell at 30, 29 and 28 rials, and farther on 27 were freely offered, but at the present date prices have fallen still lower.

Capones are being bought for the saladeros at 10 rials each for picked animals—shorn of course. There have been no sales of sheep lately.

A very mysterious affair happened here a few weeks ago, to which I would have alluded before now had I been able to obtain reliable information. A young man, a Spaniard, had been sent from an estancia between Argentinas and Carmelo to bring a sum of money (50 nacionales) from the latter village. He never returned. It seems the money had been paid to him, and on the same day about two o'clock in the afternoon he left Carmelo to discharge his trust. After the lapse of a few days, his horse was found to have returned to an old 'querencia,' saddled, but covered with mud, and rumour spread the report that the young man was found with his throat cut, in a bañada between the two villages. This story obtained general belief although the authorities had not got possession of the body, and the party who sent the young man had been unable, after a thorough search of several days, to discover it. It was then whispered that 'some one' had seen the body but would not come forward with any statement for fear he should be accused of the murder. I believe the body has now been found in the bañada referred to and it is supposed that the young man had got thrown from his horse, and as the place was a dangerous one, that he was unable to extricate himself, and so met his death. The writer knows him well as a steady honest youth.

In Carmelo the elections passed off very quietly.

LATEST FROM BRAZIL.

Rio de Janeiro, 22nd Nov., 1867. Notwithstanding the great dearth of interesting matter to communicate to the *Standard*, your correspondent takes up his pen with a view to inditing his usual packet letter. Whether this will in the end be worthy of the perusal of your readers is another matter concerning which your correspondent feels certain conscientious doubts.

The cheering advices from the seat of war recently come to hand by the various steamers from your ports to Rio have considerably raised the drooping spirits of all persons here, and served to tranquillize the minds of those whose sad forebodings as to the duration of the war really were beginning to appear well founded. Looking at the positions now held by the Allied armies, the number of troops constantly going forward from Brazil to augment the Imperial army, and taking into consideration the firmness and skill of the Marquis de Caxias, there would at length seem to be sufficient grounds for the hopes and expectations generally cherished here, that the war will have come to an end before the expiration of the present year.

Such a circumstance would be a perfect god-send to us here, as trade is constantly becoming worse and worse; the demand both in the retail and wholesale circles has fearfully diminished, while all goods, which cost, even at the present ruling rates of Exchange, enormous prices, will, if the war continues, cost something terrific, when the increased duties, &c., are put in operation at the commencement of next year.

Our old friend Capt. Capper [formerly of the Susan Bearne] is back again in Rio, having brought out from Liverpool the English steamer Theresa of 140 tons, to Messrs. Dalglis, Thompson & Co.'s consignment.

We have had quite a crowd of packets and steamers in this harbour during the past few days:—The French packets Guienne, Annis, Picardie, and Politou; the English steamers Tycho Brahe, Beakley, and Theresa,

and the American packet North America.

The American frigate Guerriere and the corvette Wasp arrived here from Bahia on the 19th inst.

The Danish corvette Dagmar arrived here from Cadiz yesterday.

The celebrated and inimitable Hermann has been exhibiting his feats of conjuring and legerdemain of late to admiring crowds at the Teatro Lyrico. M^{re}. Hermann has also assisted in rendering these chances more agreeable by singing cavatinas and airs from various operas, and has been very well received by the Rio public. The performance has each night been closed by the exhibition of the magnificent sylphorams of Mr. Duboce, in which some sublimely splendid scenes have been presented, and frenetically applauded by the spectators.

Captain Manoel dos Santos Ornelas, who for a long time commanded the Brazilian steam transport San Paulo, expired on the 18th inst., after a long and trying illness, brought on by his long stay in the River Paraguay.

Her Imperial Highness the Duchess of Braganza, mother of the Emperor of Brazil, has given a fresh proof of the interest she takes in the welfare of this country by giving up for the use of the State the fifth part of her privy purse allowance in 1868.

The Brazilian steam transport Marcilio Dias left this port yesterday with a further contingent of about 400 men for the reinforcement of the Brazilian Army invading Paraguay, and another transport is to leave in a few days.

The American packet North America brought out this trip 110 emigrants, who come to settle in this empire.

I send you a list of the passengers arrived per North America, who proceeded to the River Plate.

The *Diario do Rio* has published another leading article, in which are clearly set forth the immense benefits accruing to Brazilian commerce by the Lamport and Holt Astronomical line of steamers, and the rights of this company to some consideration and less severity from the Brazilian Custom House and port authorities, are firmly upheld. The *Diario do Rio* is the best paper published in Rio, and its articles are written with great ability and strict impartiality; the chief aim of its talented editors is to advocate and assist as much as possible by means of that powerful arm, the press, the progress and advancement of Brazil, while furnishing at the same time to the public a really good newspaper.

I send you the *Diario do Rio* containing the article above referred to, and also a copy of to day's issue.

In consequence of the advices received from Europe by the Guienne of the stoppage of the Royal Bank of Liverpool, the following advertisement was at once inserted in all our daily papers by the much respected firm of Edward Johnston & Co., established in this city:—

"In consequence of the recent suspension of the Royal Bank of Liverpool, we deem it our duty to herewith make public that our drafts on that establishment have been, and will continue so, all duly honored by our London firm, Messrs. Edward Johnston, Son, & Co.; and we moreover beg to communicate to all holders of our unaccepted drafts on the above-named Bank that we are prepared to offer any tangible guarantee for the proper fulfillment thereof.—Yours respectfully, Edward Johnston & Co.—Rio de Janeiro, 16th Nov., 1867."

Exchange for the Guienne has been done on London at 20d to 20½d for banker's drafts, and 20d to 20½d for private bills. On France the ruling rates have been 458rs. to 472rs. per 100rs. On Hamburg transactions have taken place at 826rs. to 800rs. per M.R.

Sovereigns have been sold at 11\$500 up to 11\$600 [last price].

Brazilian 6 per cent stock has been sold at 88 per cent.

Cane socca stock to-day consists of 20,000 arrs. Rio Grande and 100, 500 arrs., River Plate. Our present quotations are 1\$800 to 3\$ for Rio Grande, and 1\$600 to 3\$200 for River Plate.

Flour—Stock, about 63,000 brls. Quotations—Baltimore 20½, Trieste 23\$500, Richmond 20½ to 32\$, Oull 14½ to 17\$, Australia 15\$000 to 18\$. CABBAL.

TRIP TO THE SHAMOKIN AND RETURN TO BUENOS AYRES.

Whatever interest to the general reader our trip to the Japanese iron-ore may have secured, the subsequent events of that memorable day are matters of far more lasting importance. True there may be something extremely amusing in counting over Mr. Evans' difficulties with a conversative shinski or reading of the outlandish customs of an unknown country, but far more instructive is it to stand on the quarter deck of a first class man-of-war, converse with the Captain on naval matters, inspect a ship kept in the most perfect order, and gather instruction from even the humblest marine in the United States Navy. It must indeed be a source of pride to every Britisher that if there is of late years any division in the sovereignty of the seas, it is shared by a kindred people who trudge in the same highways of progress, and who though sundered occasionally by the clashing of interests and the legitimate rivalry of trade are in the end homogeneous in language and ambition, and in naval matters identical in excellence. We shall not attempt to draw any comparisons between the relative strength of the two navies, and Heaven grant that distant be the day when they shall be tried; but we do say that after visiting the war vessels of various nations when one steps from the quarter deck of an English man-of-war to an American he finds that however widely these two nations may differ in other things, in naval matters the two nations are identical the same rigid, discipline, cleanliness and order, which speak for the merits of the navy.

We left the Stonewall with a ludicrous appreciation of the Japanese naval power, and a foggy perception of the true value of such a vessel in the hands of Zi-pang-gu sailors, who trod the decks of the Shamokin with an inward satisfaction that the noble vessel belonged to a still nobler people, and that great and grand and powerful as is the navy of the United States, still greater and grander and more powerful are the institutions which embellish the country whose flag floated over our heads. Captain Crosby welcomed us on deck and invited us to his cabin; after a refreshing glass of sherry and water which by the bye Judge Hollister peremptorily refused to partake, we went over the ship, through the men's quarters into the machine world, up on the hurricane deck, and even into the bullet proof wheel houses; the sentries were at their post, the officer in charge of deck, the marines busy at ship-work, every man seemed at his post; the decks of that spotless whiteness which is unknown to the mercantile marine, and the engines, boilers and machinery bright as if just turned out of the machine shops. The Shamokin however from what we could see of her although an ugly customer to run foul of, is not what we term a fighting ship, and seems apparently more a messenger vessel or station ship than anything else; her great peculiarity is her structure, she has no stern; being what the Americans term a double ender, having bows at both ends, the merits of which consist in being able to navigate in very narrow rivers without being obliged to turn. The Shamokin has been so long on this station, up to Paraguay and back; in fact, in every part of our rivers, that a detailed description of the ship is uncalled for; the officers are known to us all, and are welcome guests in every circle. Whilst in the captain's cabin our agreeable companion, Judge Hollister, a strict disciple of Father Matthew, and rigid teetotaler, introduced the subject of temperance. He described the proffered sherry as insidious poison, and, in his solicitude to sustain the conclusions he had formed, invoked a long experience as judge at Illinois, where each term it was his duty to try his fellow-man for offences which sprang from intoxication. Doubtless, there are many who would answer the arguments of the intensely sincere judge with a sneer or a smile, but we profess not to be of that school. It was difficult, in the captain's cabin, to follow the judge through all his arguments, to banish every prejudice, exile every doubt, and exclude from the mind each thought that tended to distract attention. But the judge seemed to have that desired mastery. He proved to us that he had accomplished the perfect submission of the will to the reason. Indignation with him never seems to grasp the reins by which she ought to be guided, nor misdirect the judgment she is bound to obey. Happy, indeed, is the man who has so disciplined the affections as to disarm their temporary power of all their weaker tendencies. Captain Crosby, possibly for controversial objects, took the opposite side of the question, but controversies are

ephemeral, and temperance ethics are doomed to an early death unless nurtured by example. In fact, anything conceivable to the imagination is more facile of realisation than the dream of Judge Hollister to teetotalise a boozy brandy-drinking, wine-tipping world. We may hew down the Pyramids of Egypt, convert those enduring monuments which mock all our science and civilisation, and despite time, into lodging houses; we may canalise the Falls of Niagara, and even drive a railway train under the Atlantic, but never change the habits, thoughts, and vices of mankind. This is the attribute of the Almighty, and it is but a species of humanising monomania to wend through life inspired with such a dream.

We left the ship during the intense heat of the day, and, as we glided towards the shore, our thoughts were called from teetotalism to another and very different subject. There lay before us the French stowship, La Fortune, an English vessel captured by the French at Trafalgar. Even to this hour she is a noble vessel, and a proud evidence of the durability of English oak. Had we stumbled over the tomb of Nelson it could not have recalled more vividly the brightest page in British naval history than that aged survivor now at anchor before us.

'Twas in Trafalgar's bay
We saw the Frenchmen lay,
Each heart was bounding then,
We spurn'd the foreign yoke,
For our ships were British Oak,
And hearts of Oak our Men!
Our Nelson mark'd them on the wave,
Three cheers our gallant seamen gave,
Nor thought of home or beauty,
Along the line the signal ran,
England expects that every man
This day will do his duty!

But times have wonderfully changed since then, and, though the spirit of Nelson still lives in the breast of every British tar, the power he wielded is gone for ever. Science has defeated bravery; ships fight now, not men, and iron plates and hideous-looking steam-rams have taken the place of the noble three-decker and the graceful frigate. We ran up to the new stairs for the new market, and, thanking Mr. Evans for his kindness, started off for the Bolsa.

The Bolsa, of Montevideo, is like many River Plate politicians—in advance of the age—the building is splendid, majestic, and an ornament to the city; but for the business of Montevideo it is altogether too large. Nearly every merchant subscribes; few attend: the result is that the institution pays a handsome dividend, whilst it literally does no business. Mr. Oliver seems to be the great Exchange broker; Hughes and Le Bas the woolmen; Humfreys and Clark the shipbrokers; and Seymour the inspiring genius of the whole establishment. At three o'clock the place was deserted.

The Telegraph Office has a tempting convenience, where, by means of a hole in the wall, messages can be transmitted from the Exchange Hall to Buenos Ayres.

Sprunck, our agent, lives a little up the street. His premises are far too small for the importance of his position. He states, since the warm weather has set in, he is doing a very active business in selling old Standards and new music.

At four p.m., we dined at the Oriental with Judge Hollister, who astonished the waiters by beginning his dinner with coffee, then soup then coffee again, then fish, then coffee again, and so on, which, as far as we could learn, is the established custom in Illinois. Chateau margaux is probably unknown in that prosperous State.

The trip back to Buenos Ayres in the Edward Everett was one of the pleasantest we ever recollect. Judge Hollister dispelled navigation monotony by his judicial anecdotes, interspersed with personal recollections of Mr. Seward, and some of the most distinguished public men in the States. He complimented us upon the legal erudition displayed in many of the articles in the Standard; whilst Mrs. Salmon, Miss Nougner, and Miss Lezica at intervals played some sweet airs on the piano. At ten precisely our judicial companion retired to rest, and then, emancipating ourselves from the pleasures of the drawing-room, we passed to the dining saloon to join the smoking party.

As we whiffed the editorial weed, we gathered new views from the general conversation going on. Mr. Loedel, fresh with his lottery triumphs, spoke of his feelings when he gained the thirty thousand nat. dollar prize, and bore testimony to the rising value of Montevidean property. We understand this gentleman has won in lottery prizes the pleasant sum of 58,000 pats.

Mr. Moll gave us his phlegmatic views on the market, whilst Mr. Nou-

guier spoke of a lengthened experience in these countries, taught us the history of River Plate barraqueros; and we rose at midnight from the circle, lamenting that dull sleep should terminate so agreeable a party.

Notwithstanding that the Edward Everett had about 600 tons of cargo, we arrived true to time. She is beyond all question the most comfortable steamer in the river.

Thanking Captain Chadwick for his great attention and kindness to us on board, we jumped from the crowd of boatmen at the gangway into the whaleboat, and landed safe and sound at the Mole Head, with our fellow-traveller, the judge, whose only baggage being a walking stick was undelayed at the Capitania by the inevitable vista.

IMPORTANT FROM THE INTERIOR.

COAL AND WINE STATISTICS.

Mendoza, Nov. 16, 1867.

After an interval of over three months, I again have to beg a corner in your columns. My absence from here, and dearth of interesting news, has been the principal cause of my silence.

Our thriving little town and people may be truthfully compared to the swallow, for we are essentially 'summer' birds, and very little is heard of our existence during the dreary months of winter. Just now we are beginning to experience a little more activity and bustle. The Andes have at last, after an obstinate struggle, slowly opened their frigid gates, and, under the influence of a November sun, the snowy barriers to commerce, and if, I may use the term, 'Montonerism' have gradually melted away, and once more placed the highway to the Pacific at our disposal. Already numerous troops of cattle have been sent over from here by 'uspallata,' and many travellers have arrived from the sister Republic, some 'en route' for your city, with the pleasant prospect of being scalped, by way of breaking the monotony of a pampa journey, whilst others have come to treat for cattle and merchandise.

As yet we have no invoices to hand from Chile, and the majority of stores here are almost empty; no goods having been introduced during the revolution last year; hence the only articles to be found in stock are those imported from your city, or, more properly, the remnants of what the unfortunate merchants selected, paid for, and shipped in good order, but which, as per custom of late, have undergone a process of 'pick and choose' of the best, under the superintendence of that choice connoisseur, Cacique Calfucará and his colleagues, perhaps twice or thrice, 'en route' from Rosario to San Luis.

It is really a most distressing state of things, and a melancholy fact, that not a single troop of carts this year from Mendoza have escaped the ravages of those Indio-Christian raiders. I have been informed that one troop, which left Rosario some eight months ago, is just now expected to arrive, having been sacked and ransacked at various places and times, and oxen, mules, and merchandise carried off, until at last it emerged from the line of danger—by repeated relays of oxen and mules—preserving solely the most ponderous packages, such as iron, &c., which to the Bedouin of the Pampa would be useless.

Within the past few weeks, I believe General Paunero has ordered that from Rio Cuarto to San Luis an escort be furnished to the 'troupes' who may ask for it. The Mensageria is obliged to take advantage of this, and hence no accident has as yet happened to the mails. The San Juan carts (being drawn by mules) have, on the contrary, as yet escaped from any attempt at sacking, for the simple reason that the peones are well-armed with the Spencer rifle (seven shot), and which tends, no doubt, to instil a certain amount of respect and fear into the would be marauders. In nine cases out of ten the raiders are mostly 'gauchos,' accompanied by a few Indians, by far the worst class of scoundrels to be met with on the plains. When will the frontier be free from these scourges? I presume the answer must come from the trenches around Humaitá, and the sooner the better. The only measure to be adopted with the Indians should be simply and plainly extermination: wholesale, complete, and for ever. Then, and not till then, shall we enjoy peace and security.

General Paunero is still here, and although he has received positive orders from Buenos Ayres to march with all his forces to Paraguay, he is more prudently awaiting the course of events here, which, were he to leave, might result in a worse entanglement

than was brought about by the celebrated revolution of last year.

Chasques have just dashed in from the North, and the news is not of the most reassuring character. We are told that at Guaco, about 15 leagues from Jacha, the 'Montoneros' have appeared, numbering some 500 men, according to some 200; but further east, in a fertile valley of the Andes, some 300 more are said to be encamped and well-mounted.

Mr. Medina has not been idle in Chile, and the result of his mission, when he separated from Varela, with 400 fat cows, which he sold in Copiapo, and with whose proceeds he has purchased arms and hired soldiers. We are told that he can find any quantity of arms, first-class rifles, for a nominal price, in Chile, and that men are flocking to his standard openly and without reserve, or fear of interruption from the authorities, that the house of Aguirre, in Copiapo, is daily hiring men, mostly miners, under the pretext of sending them here to work, that they go into the Cordillera, where a rendezvous is established, and instead of the pick or crowbar, long range rifles are placed in their hands, and they are drilled and disciplined in a few days; they are then despatched with their fellows and told to invade our territory with the simple order, 'á robar, muchachos!'

Our chasque also tells us that already an encounter has taken place, near Guaco, resulting in the defeat of the 'Montoneros,' leaving 15 killed and many wounded on the field. Some 200 men have been despatched from San Juan, to aid Commander Baptista in dispersing this horde of cut-throats.

As yet Medina has not appeared at the head of his forces, which would imply that he still remains in Chile attending to the "supply," and that soon, very soon, we may expect to hear of him very close to here with a formidable force.

Then again our northern 'chasque' tells us that Varela has entered the city of Salta, after a farcical attempt at resistance on the part of the garrison. (It is to be hoped, for the honor of the 'old country,' that your Irish apothecary, alluded to in a late number, as heading the townsfolk, had not the command, or was not engaged in the 'scrimmage.') In short, what with Videl, &c., threatening us on the south, Medina at our doors, and Varela in the north; I think the sooner Humaitá is taken, and five thousand men sent up here, the safer will be our throats and the firmer the National Government in the sovereignty of its power in the Interior; and, most important of all, the future Presidency of the Republic secured to a liberal candidate.

That the Chilian Government is overtly and covertly fomenting the invasion, and joined hand-in-hand with our enemies, is a fact which very few here doubt for a moment, and that a just and terrible retribution ought to fall upon her, or be dealt to her, by our Government, is the universal cry of the Cuyanos. I fear, indeed, there is much truth in this belief, and when we see the Chilian Government, by decrees and circulars, and even armed force, prohibiting the slightest interference or breach of the neutrality laws, as regards the revolutionary struggle now going on in Peru, whilst in reference to 'us' not a syllable is breathed, nor an order given to stop the most flagrant breach of neutrality. The case demands urgent attention from our Government.

I have just paid a visit to the coal deposits in the Paramillo, alluded to in a former letter, and an analysis of which coal you published a short time ago. As I prognosticated then, the owners of the mines have not had courage enough, or perhaps capital enough, to proceed with the work, and we are still in doubt as to the carboniferous wealth hidden at our very doors. Thick seams of an inferior class of coal, or, more properly, bituminous shale, have been found on the surface, and with this, mixed in equal parts with the wood, is the smelting, being carried on. The works consist of one furnace, of the reverberatory class, for fusion of copper ores to form with the poor silver ones, an argentiferous regulus.

This is the business proposed to be done by Messrs. Canto and Villanueva, and, from all appearance, promises well. The firewood is very scarce, and the 'fluxes' have to be brought from a distance of fifty leagues. Still the calculations on paper look very pretty, and, as I said, promises fairly.

In San Juan the mining industry is again beginning to flourish, and a fair hope may be entertained of the resuscitation of the Hilario Works, which, under the reformed management of

Major Rickard, have been prospering during the past four or five months. Ores are abundant and cheap, firewood plentiful, and no scarcity of hands felt.

The only temporary drawback to commence mining and business generally in these provinces, is the scarcity of mule troops for transport; the freights are unexceptionably high to all quarters, and so here says the Provinces been left of mules by the rebels, that for no price can troops be procured.

The freights, to Rosario, or, more properly, to Villanueva, still continue at from ten to twelve reales (Bolivian) per ar. of 25lbs., and many will not risk the journey at any price. Immense quantities of produce are here stored up, useless, from the high freights, although a short time since flour was exported at the exorbitant freight of \$6 per quintal. I fear many lose heavily in those shipments, as flour is down at Rosario and Buenos Ayres. The price here for this article, 1st class, from 21 rs to \$3 per quintal; 2d class, 14 rs to 18 rs per quintal. Large stocks on hand.

There are also some large stocks of wine on hand here, some of excellent quality, the average price from 20 rs. to \$3 per ar., of 48 bottles. I have tried some delicious white wine, as also Bourdeaux and claret, as Mons. Puget's Quinta, which equals, if not surpasses, some of the celebrated brands from the banks of the Rhine and Garonne. These wines are sold here at \$16 per ar. of 48 bottles, or about 33 cts. Bol., a little over one shilling per bottle. If we had a prompt and cheap means of communication with Buenos Ayres, doubtless, these wines would supersede the Carlones, &c. imported from Europe.

Fat cattle very scarce and dear.

I remain, Gentlemen,

Yours truly,

TUEUNGATO.

BEEF AND YERBA.

What we mean to foreshadow by the heading of this article, is the threatened return of our sheepfarmers to the primitive style of living of the gaucho. From all sides we continue to receive the most distressing prophecies of ruin, as well as afflicting accounts of hardworking and intelligent men, who were but lately prosperous and independent farmers, reduced to the determination of abandoning their lands, and seeking a living in the receipt of daily wages. Making every allowance for the exaggeration engendered by disappointment, the state of the country districts is sufficiently serious. A little more pressure, and the misery which we hear of now in dribbles of grumbling, and by occasional rumor, will appear bodily in our streets. There will then be a great outcry, and the first question that will be asked is, "what are our rulers doing?" Turning to the official decrees published even within the last week, we find that the Government is planning new towns, and that the country Municipalities are contracting for millions of bricks, to give substance to our rulers' ideal of national progress.

But in the face of a manifest decay of the principal staple industry of this country, there are less imaginative politicians who have a suspicion that if new cities are to be paid for, it must be with money coined from the very last golden egg that will be deposited in the coffers of the State by any normal process. One more operation is still in reserve, but we know the result.

In the present moribund state of the patient, we should recommend the economising of its powers, and mild relief rather than the overtaxing of its abilities. A new treatment of this nature might very well commence with the remission of the export tax on wool. Practical men stigmatise this tax as a direct burden on the producer; and, no doubt, they are correct, however much the point may be debated among theorists as to whether an export tax falls most heavily on the home producer or the foreign consumer.

Where a certain article of produce is limited to one country, the tax will assuredly fall on the foreigner; since, if he is to procure the commodity at all, he must pay the tax, with the rest of the invoice charges. But in the case of wool, which is a staple product of several different countries, the price in the consuming market is regulated by the competition of the producing countries, as well as by that of the buyers; and the amount of the export tax, if confined to a particular country, is liable to be a dead loss to the shipper or farmer.

When the demand is brisk, and prices are high in the foreign market, the extra charge per lb. for export tax will not, generally speaking, be much

felt by the farmer, as there will yet be a large margin for the shipper. When the prices are lower the burden may perhaps be divided between the two; but when the price has so fallen as to scarcely cover cost, the additional charge will be just sufficient to stop transactions, and the result to the farmer is still heavier loss in store rent, expenses, and interest of money.

We have been over-minute in presenting a case so obvious to the most of our readers, as we know from experience that the remission of the export tax is looked upon by many as the grand panacea for the evils of the wool growers. This might turn out to be a delusion on their parts, and would injure their case if the argument were pressed without a due regard to particular circumstances, and besides it might draw their attention from other causes of decline in the wool industry, of far more importance, and which the farmers themselves, and not the Government, must remedy. We allude chiefly to the exorbitant rent paid for land, and the scale of living and expenses fostered by the fictitious value of produce during the last few years.

On the other hand the conditions at present ruling are precisely those in which the abolition of the export tax would be the most welcome to the wool growers and the most politic on the part of the Government. This is not the time for the Ministers to trouble themselves with the mere reforming of the tax, for taking into consideration whether by so imposing it as to fall less heavily on one or other class of wools they can encourage the export of clean wools or for treating any minor question incidental to the tax; nothing short of its entire repeal will be of the slightest service at this most critical period.

We are not certain as to the powers of the Ministry in this Republic when Congress is not sitting, or if they possess any function corresponding to an order in council but we earnestly implore Mr. Gonzalez and Dr. Rawson to make use of what privileges they enjoy in coming at once to the relief of the most numerous and most important class of foreign residents in these countries; a class who have most contributed to the present wealth of native land owners, and who are yet destined to transform a pastoral people into a civilized and agricultural nation.

Owing to the unfortunate scarcity of statistical information we are unable to calculate the approximate value of exports and the amount that would be lost to the revenue by the rescinding of the export tax on wool, but we are satisfied that the moral effect of its immediate abolition would amply repay the momentary pecuniary loss; and very shortly, the increased energy of the recipients of this favor would multiply the resources of the Government.

THE WILD MISSION.

In the incessant stream of Government decrees, &c., necessarily, there are many subjects which escape notice. Difficult as it is to keep pace with the current literature of the day, read all the magazines, reviews, and new books, still more superhuman is the task of extending to every Government decree, an impartial criticism to offer opinions which although they find no echo in the Government-house are nevertheless the sentiments of what may be termed a plastic public; to publish in the congenial warmth of our vernacular, the shifting feelings of our subscribers on every topic in the Government-house; and to present to the Minister who bows to the verdict of public opinion, the various views which present themselves on the contemplation of any important political question.

Emigration is a subject which on this side of the Atlantic admits of no controversy, although nowadays in Europe political economists differ as to its real advantages, but the Argentine Minister in creating a special Emigration envoy, whose duty is to instruct the Southern Germans and the Swiss as to the real merits of this country, has only acted up to the programme of his Government, performed the true duty of an Argentine, and set an example to other South American republics, which if properly followed out may lead to nothing short of Germanizing the whole Southern portion of this continent. A dream so grand, so mighty, and so human, merits at the hands of journalists some better appreciation than to be pitched with a lot of waste paper into one of Langelaan's empty gin boxes. Patriotism towards our adopted country induces us to call attention to a scheme fraught with such incalculable results for this Republic; but justice demands that we should stigmatize the very miserable economy of the Government which whilst it aims at Helvetic

migration 'en masse,' barely yields to the Argentine prophet a salary sufficient to pay his hotel bill.

It may interest our readers to know the secret hinges upon which this mighty emigration scheme hangs and to explain the motive which induced the Minister to select the Alpine fastnesses of the land of Tell, for his Emigration field, in preference to other countries in more immediate contact with the Plate; but, we are all more or less the creatures of impulse, and Hector Varela's splendid 'debut' at Geneva has in reality given birth to the present mission. For six weeks after his memorable speech he was the great unknown in Europe, some thought him Paraguayan, others Brazilian, and a few believed he came from the Falkland Islands. Such a profound ignorance in the very heart of Europe, shocked the feelings of our administration. Every man woman and child in Buenos Ayres, with the slightest smattering of geography knows where Switzerland is, and yet at the great Congress Hall in Geneva where the great savans of Europe met, not a single individual could tell who is Marcos Paz, or where the country lies, which he rules. Hector Varela's speech therefore has been prolific of one real advantage. We may look forward by the return steamer for a full account of the first preaching of the Apostle of Argentine immigration, and the amusing comments of our astonished Swiss Colleagues on the new El Dorado for the Swiss.

Everything touching the River Plate is now at a premium in Europe; Dr. Wild therefore begins his crusade under the most propitious auspices, and as his jurisdiction extends only to Switzerland and South Germany, he has to deal with probably the most impressionable people in Europe.

The tour of the emigrant agent through Switzerland cannot fail to be of the greatest interest to us all here in Buenos Ayres, and we hope by each mail to read his descriptive letters; he will probably start on his Emigration crusade in the valley of the Rhone, and give his first lecture within sight of the appalling Mount Blanc. If Mr. Wild is read up in Helvetic history he will remind the peasants of the day when an entire tribe instigated by their leader Orgetorix determined to conquer seats in Gaul, and crossed the Saone under the command of Divico, he will teach the rising generation that within a few weeks sail there is a land of milk and honey where the rulers with outstretched arms are waiting to receive them; he will touch upon the peasants on the sorrows of their ancestors under the weak reign of Charles the Fat, and teach them the full grandeur of South American liberty as enjoyed by the happy sheepfarmers in the Plate; he will exhibit to the hardy mountaineers the gaudy apparel of the true South American gaucho, and to carry further weight if Mr. Wild would produce a full life sized photograph of a gaucho on horseback, what an effect would it not produce? The intending Swiss emigrant would read in the photographic light his future, and discover the possible figure he would cut when toiling in his future Pampa home, surrounded by a numerous Platino Helvetic progeny. If Mr. Wild has the talent for such a calling he certainly could not desire a finer field for his exertions Switzerland is the last foot hold in Europe of Democracy; B. Ayres and Neufchatel may be regarded as Republican Sisters, and if by any good luck Doctor Wild is proficent with the bow and arrow, then will his Helvetic career be one continued triumph; verily he will lead all Switzerland to the Plate. Nevertheless, there is a dark side to the picture, the sum allowed to Dr. Wild is a miserable proof of the stinginess of Republican Governments, if he travels by rail he must ride third class. The outer class of Swiss will judge the River Plate by its agent, and although we don't think Dr. Wild should drive through Switzerland in a coach and four, still plodding from Canton to Canton with an old gingham umbrella and a copy of the river Plate handbook under his arm, will not inspire the Helvetians with very grand ideas as to the wealth and prosperity of the great land of promise for the Swiss.

Foreigners residing near Moreno are most anxious that the Government should re-appoint the present Judge, Sr. Martinez Melo, to the post of Judge for the ensuing year. He has proved himself an excellent, pains-taking public officer, built the church, schools, bridges, &c., which adorn that rising partido, and is, beyond all question, the most eligible party for the post. We trust Dr. Avellaneda will consider so, and re-appoint him.

ROSARIO.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Nov. 29/1867.

The news from the provinces is favorable, if we may judge from the letters and despatches of General Navarro. The Montonera has been put down in Salta and Jujuy, and Varela appears to be done up.

The National Guards of Tucuman have been disbanded, as also the greater part of those of Salta. The row in Rioja still continues, caused by the revolution that General Arredondo, of the National Army, got up against Davila, the Governor. It is hard to understand the merits of the case. Davila was a creature of Taboada, and I suppose it is necessary to weaken the influence of the latter caudillo, who can come into the Presidential field at the head of six provinces.

Buenos Ayres, although she has a certain right, from her wealth and population, to influence the elections, can only count with certainty on San Juan. The influence of Urquiza and Taboada will carry all the other provinces; so that should either of these gentlemen accept the Buenos Ayres candidate, the list will be sure to triumph. However, up to the present time, we are quite in the dark. We do not know if the metropolis will present a candidate, and all the provinces are waiting in silence the disclosure. I take it that the Tribuna, that is to Buenos Ayres what the Times is to England, is playing off the name of Sarmiento. I cannot believe for a moment that the Varelas are in earnest in offering Sarmiento as a candidate. In Santa Fe opinion is not yet formed, but Alsina, I think, will be accepted.

The day before yesterday we had in the port of Rosario 43 steamers and sea-going vessels. Yesterday four steamers entered, loaded completely with merchandise.

The receipts at the Custom-house this month will reach the respectable sum of 220,000 patacons. They were, last month, 170,000, and the month before 150,000. If we take an average of 200,000 dollars, we have 2,400,000 per annum. To this, however, to get at the real business of Rosario, we must add the export duties belonging to this port, and paid in Buenos Ayres; these will amount to about 60,000 dollars; and the duties paid in Buenos Ayres on goods "removidos" shipped to Rosario—say, about 40,000 dollars. We, consequently, find that the actual business of this Custom-house amounts to \$3,000,000 per annum, considerably more than the whole receipts of the Buenos Ayres Custom-house before the battle of Cepeda. We may calculate that one-third of the Customs receipts of the Republic belong to Rosario, and I anticipate they will soon amount to the half.

This extraordinary progress, although partly occasioned by the war, is nevertheless in its greatest part due to the legitimate progress and expansion of commerce and agriculture. Should the war end to-morrow I have no doubt but that the Custom-house business would steadily increase on the same ratio that it has done during the last three years; and as this business is the mirror by which we judge of the general progress of the country, I conclude that, notwithstanding the war, the montoneras and the Indians, the Argentine Nation is making as rapid strides in the road to wealth, prosperity and greatness as any country on the face of the globe.

We are of course compelled to reflect on what would have been its probable progress, were we not afflicted with the evils above mentioned, and had the governments been enabled to dispose of their surplus strength and treasures in building railroads and fomenting emigration. But we must content ourselves with the reflection that if we go a-head so rapidly, surrounded as we are by difficulties, what will be our ratio of progression when these difficulties disappear!

And here I should like to remind the gentlemen who until very lately occupied themselves in writing and speaking against Rosario, and alarming themselves and their credulous listeners with the idea that the progress of this city would be detrimental to that of Buenos Ayres of their error. What has been the result? Why just what I have reiterated again and again for the last five years—every ten steps that Rosario takes in the road to greatness Buenos Ayres takes twenty; and to the very progress of the former, the latter owes at least one-third of her own. How very soon crude theories are knocked on the head when they are not based on practical good sense, and when they run counter with the lessons of experience!

In reference to a letter that appeared in the Standard a few days ago

giving an account of the last invasion of the Indians, Mr. Seymour addressed me the following letter, which I enclose in my own.

November 19.

SIR—Having seen my name in the Standard connected with some rather curious statements regarding the last visit of the Indians to the neighbourhood of the Frayle Muerto, you will allow me to write a few lines to say what did happen, and in what way I am myself connected with the matter.

On the 2nd inst. a body of 200 Indians, or rather, as they really are, Indians and Gauchos, came up from the direction of Lobaton; where they had been lifting cattle and carrying off what prisoners they could lay hands on; to the small town of Saladillo, from the vicinity of which they drove off horses and cattle, and even cut the sogas of horses tied close to the houses, which they did not attempt to enter, nor attack any one. They then passed on to Monte de la Leña, the estancia of Messrs. Trotter and Watt, but, fortunately, were seen in the distance, and Mr. John Watt went out and drove all the animals up. The Indians came nearer, but a few shots warned them to be careful, and they departed towards the South. They very shortly fell in with five carts belonging to Saladillo, which were returning from Monte Molino, the estancia belonging to myself and partners, from which they took the bullocks and three of the boys driving. From those who escaped we ascertained that they learnt from them everything in connection with our place, and immediately proceeded to drive off all they could find. Myself and my brother were both absent at the time, but Mr. Goodriche was there, and with him Messrs. Kingscote and Middleton. The Indians appeared about 12 o'clock; at which time the three were working close to the river Saladilla, about two miles from the house. Some peones were at the house, but did not see the Indians till they were quite close, and did nothing to save any of the animals. Owing to the nature of the ground, Messrs. Goodriche, Kingscote, and Middleton neither saw nor heard anything of them till they were quite out of sight again, and when, consequently, they could do nothing.

The Indians did not attempt to approach the house, or to attack any one at our place, or at any other English estancia. They sacked a trocha of nearly 400 carts a very short distance from us two days afterwards. They then, I believe, departed for the frontier of Buenos Ayres, from which place they come, being some of what are commonly known as Rosas' tame Indians.

With regard to the expedition talked of against the Indians, I spoke to my friends down here, and in the two provinces as to the possibility of raising a party sufficiently strong and well armed to do such a thing. But I am sorry to say that the great difficulties and expense in properly arming and fitting out such a party, together with the little energy displayed by the people of this part in repelling the Indian incursions, have obliged me to abandon the idea for the present. As to the causes of the want of protection of the frontier on the part of a Government, who guaranteed to do so, and tax land-owners for an imaginary force for the purpose, I will say nothing at present; the deplorable results in every way are evident to the whole world who have heard of the Argentine Republic.

It appears that the candidates for Governor in this province will arrive at some compromise by which Mr. Cabal will walk over the course.

Mr. Oroño is expected here to-morrow or on Monday. His presence is required to give an impulse to many reforms.

On Wednesday we had a most beneficent storm of rain, thunder and lightning. The weather has been favorable to an extraordinary degree to the agricultural interest. The crops of wheat, corn, potatoes, onions, and all kinds of fruits, will be very abundant.

The edifice of the gas works is progressing rapidly; it will be in readiness to receive the machinery when this arrives, which will be in three or four months.

The Prefecto of San Francisco Monks has addressed a note to the Government stating that he and his associates will not obey the late laws sanctioned by the Legislature.

In Córdoba lately the Ecclesiastical authorities would not allow the body of a Spanish gentleman, Mr. Aldereto, of Rosario, to be buried in the province, because he was a Mason. The body is to be brought down to Rosario. I am, Gentlemen,

Yours truly, W. P.

LATEST FROM EUROPE.

ARRIVAL OF THE AURORA.

ITALY.

The insurgents although constantly beaten are able to maintain themselves by foreign aid and to all appearances are tolerated by the Italian Government. France took up the matter seriously and ordered the Toulon squadron to be in readiness to convey troops to Civita Vecchia. The Italian Minister Ratazzi then resigned and General Cialdini was called to form a new ministry who gave the most categorical declarations to the French Government and Louis Napoleon expressed himself satisfied and countermanded the expedition. But suddenly all was changed. Cialdini was unable to form a ministry—Garibaldi appeared in the Pontifical territory at the head of 4,000 and some say 12,000 men. The insurgents advanced to the walls of Rome but were there beaten. Vitorbo was attacked by 800 Garibaldians but the assault was repulsed. This news arriving in France, the Emperor gave fresh orders and the iron-clad squadron set sail for Civita Vecchia, 10,000 men were embarked at Toulon and 10,000 more are to follow Garibaldi with his two sons, in Sordiglia at the head of a strong force. Nicotera was in San Lorenzo with another force, other bands of insurgents entered Acquafredda and Polsona. Various troops of insurgents were constantly passing without opposition from the Italian Government. In the meantime Cialdini gave up the task of forming a ministry and a new one was formed, Malabre, president of foreign affairs; Guaiterio interior Bersoli Viale war; Ombelli public works; Canbrai Dign finance; Mori justice. The King has issued a proclamation against the act of the Garibaldinos and is determined to suppress the revolution. The greatest agitation reigns in the country and it is feared Italy has gone too far to recede. To advance will be to declare war against France.

FRANCE.

Louis Napoleon is in a difficult position. To allow the convention of the 15th September to be openly violated, would be to fail in his word and sacrifice his prestige; to make war against Italy, his only ally, would be to leave unfettered Prussia's ambition, the extent of which it is not easy to measure. Repeated Ministerial conferences have been held at Saint Omer. Contrary to the opinions of the Ministers, Duruy and Lavalette, and the Prince Napoleon, intervention was resolved upon. France was in profound commotion, and the Emperor, on his return to Paris, commenced to take the most energetic measures. The position of France is critical in the extreme. To make all Italy his enemy would be dangerous and impolitic in presence of the designs of Prussia; to abandon the Pope would be another breakdown of Imperial designs and the ruin of his prestige.

AUSTRIA AND PRUSSIA.

The Emperor of Austria arrived in Paris on the 23rd of October. Louis Napoleon received him at the railway station. The Southern States of Germany, and principally Bavaria, showed some repugnance to the military convention, by which the King of Prussia was to have the command of the troops of those states in case of war. The Prussian Government, therefore, suspended the discussion of the Customs Treaty, considering the two conventions as inseparable. The power of Baron von Bunsen, for the moment endangered by the opposition of the Bishops and the Church party, is now considered consolidated.

GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

Queen Victoria had returned to Windsor Palace, and the Prince of Wales from his continental tour. Parliament will meet on 19th Nov. The session will be limited to the authorisation of the expenses of the Abyssinian expedition, and on 17th a grand banquet was given in Manchester, Lord Derby. Lord Stanley, in his speech, said that he had proceeded with great circumspection in negotiation with the United States. He admitted that the appearance of affairs on the continent was gloomy in the extreme. Republicanism was still rife in Lorraine, and troops were on the way for that country. Lord Russell ill. The Catholic Bishops in Ireland had refused the proffered grant from the British Government.

COMMERCIAL.

A telegram we have received from Montevideo says:—As to failure in England there is only one, the Royal Bank of Liverpool; its proprietary being small and not under the slightest liability, the failure is not generally felt.

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The Standard.

"Nil fidei andeam, nil veri non andeam dicere."
Cicero.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4, 1867.

THE WAR IN THE NORTH.

Itapiru, Nov. 29.

Gentlemen,

Little or nothing worthy of note has happened in these latitudes since the exciting scenes that took place at the beginning of the month. The intolerable heat has been so intense for some time back, that it seems not only the energies of the Allies, which have never been remarkable for their brilliancy, but also those of the indefatigable Paraguayans, have been completely paralysed. The aspect of affairs certainly looks gloomy enough for Lopez and his enslaved and fanatically blinded followers. What he is doing, or what he is thinking of, cannot be easily derived from his movements, as they are few and of little extent. The Allies, on the other hand, have drawn the cord as tight as it seems convenient for them, and are quietly aiding the time, with open eyes, to receive the tiger with presented arms as he springs from his pent-up lair. There seems no probability, judging from the present condition of matters, that the Allies will venture the chances of war in an assault on the fortified lines of Lopez, but attempt to hem him in, so that he must either surrender or cut his way through the besieger's lines. In either case the result is apparently victory, easy and complete. Tayi (anglice Inpachoo tree) is held by a strong force under Menna Barreta, with a show of activity. This position is thoroughly entrenched, and can be approached for the most part only through impervious jungle. The force that was stationed in San Solano, has been sent to strengthen this important point, which not only commands the river above Humaita, cutting off the water communication, but also shuts off the road by the banks of the river, which was of so much service to Lopez, whilst the Allies thought that they were intercepting his supplies by guarding the banks of the Rio Hondo. If such be the disposition of the different parts of the line, San Solano would appear to be left free, or only slightly guarded, leaving an opening for the enemy to escape. If so, it is probably owing to one of two reasons, that the number of the Allies do not permit sufficient troops to defend all the accessible points of their vast line either Tayi being of so much more importance than San Solano, the garrison of the latter has been withdrawn in order to make the former invulnerable; or that the exit of Lopez at this point may be desired by the Allies, thus leaving him the only road to take, and that none of the best on which to retire without cavalry, and without much chance of gaining any defensible point where he might be able to check the Allies.

On the 23d Colonel Correa, with the Correntino cavalry under his charge, a company from the Paraguayan legion of cavalry, and four regiments of Brazilian horse, started off on an expedition to the Interior, it is supposed in the direction of Tibicuari. What are his orders, or the prime object of this move I cannot say, but, no doubt, if successful, valuable information may be obtained, as the aspect of the country's resources, and probable chances that Lopez may have, should be eluded the Allies, and retreat in that direction. Skirmishing at daybreak, as of old, is still kept up along the line, resulting in noise and smoke, and nothing else.

On the 25th, near Tuyucú, a Paraguayan picket guard, consisting of an officer and eight men, were surprised and captured. The captives, like all their countrymen, tell long and contradictory stories, evidently with a design to deceive; none are better adapted in making extemporaneous false statements. The day before yesterday, during the forenoon and part of the afternoon, there was heard a pretty sharp and well-sustained cannonade in the direction of Humaita. From the sound heard here and at Tuyuty, it

was judged to be in Tayi, from its apparent distance; it might have been at Ourupaty. However, where it was I cannot say. The cholera, though not quite a thing of the past, does not present itself as much of an intruder as formerly. There are three cases at the Argentine hospital, mostly mild, though occasionally are seen cases rapidly fatal. Small-pox is prevalent at the Comercio and camps of the Brazilians. There is no case amongst the Argentines. Other sicknesses, nothing to speak of.

Since the 22nd eleven sea going sailing vessels have come in, six of which were hay-laden, three with horses, and two with corn. Three steamers arrived in the same interval, besides many river craft loaded with forage. Likewise, in the interim, four steamers have come in with contingents, three of which were Brazilians, the other an Argentine. The latter contingent numbered eighty. They were evidently the sweepings of several calabosas; all were extremely squalid, some were almost naked. They were landed on the beach, and marched in a hollow square to Tuyuty on foot, unarmed, escorted by as many mounted lancers. Verily, these are not the men to conquer Paraguay or any other country. Mitre cannot be expected to work miracles with such recruits. As the Brazilian troops, who had good clothing and were well armed, were put on shore, they were formed in companies, when they marched off in military style "to the sound of the drum." Notwithstanding the large quantities of provender on hand, such of it as is available will all soon disappear, as there is absolutely no other means of keeping the cattle in working order or even alive but by feeding the beasts with forage brought from below. Your friend, Mr. Allison, may tell you how many pounds of fodder is necessary to maintain an animal twenty-four hours; multiply the number by 30,000, the product will be an approximative sum to the truth of the daily quantity of cattle feed requisite to support the allied army, to say nothing of what may be needed for a host of camp followers, male and female, a great part of whom keep horses or mules.

The American barque William Brown, the largest vessel in port, is hard aground on a sand bank placed there, her Captain avers, out of spite by the steamer which had her in tow; indeed it would seem so as the channel was well defined, with plenty of sea-room. The barque was empty, bound down; as soon as unmoored the steamer took the tow, making a straight course to the opposite side of the river to the shoal water where the barque took the ground, then the steamer left her. There is little prospect of her floating till the periodical rise of the river.

John Henderson, a native of Glasgow, a discharged stoker from the Susan Bierne, died here on the 21st. Robert Foster, a native of London, a fireman attached to the English steamer Adele, died on board on the 26th; and also on the same day died Henry Rattson, a native of Cornwall, chief engineer of the steamer Santa Fé. All were decently interred on the coast of the Parana, in front of the anchorage.

The corps d'armée that was formed of the barbarian Guaycuru Indians, who were to co-operate in the Chaco, all decamped from above, stealing all the horses they could find, when they came down in front of Corrientes, where they began an indiscriminate plunder and massacre of the woodcutters, who were engaged there in preparing timber for the Buenos Ayres market. A force of 100 men were sent from Corrientes to quell the marauders, which soon returned with the news that in an encounter twelve Indians were killed, when the rest of the horde fled; however this account does not agree with other reports. Thus much for giving clothes and arms to uncivilised savages. The chapel that Lagrana took such pains to establish there is said to be entirely ruined by their savageness. I must not omit mentioning that in spite of the dreaded raid the steamers of Mr. Lannz are removed to the bank in order to facilitate the discharging. But for Mr. L. in more than one instance the allies would have passed days and nights dinnerless, and without supper.

At present I am holding forth on board the English barque Volant, Captain Snow, where I am hospitably treated.

I was at Tuyuty day before yesterday, pumping and trudging to pick up the trash that goes now. You may rely that Lopez is bent upon mischief, probably a dash here or on the Chaco Railroad. Here all dread the supposed impending danger. Be it as it may, Lopez is not yet conquered.

The smallpox is making sad havoc among the sutlers and at the Brazilian Hospital. At the Argentine Hospital they are free from it.

Gentlemen, I supplicate you to bear in mind that my letter is concocted in a suffocating heat, the thermometer from 98 deg. to 105 deg. The annoying insects do not let one even think. Last night I was caught in the rain at the Comercio, where I was obliged to stay till this morning. Sleep was out of the question. From without the booming of distant cannon—the moans of a man on the opposite side of the way just struck down with the cholera—the howlings of dogs—organ grinders, two of whom had monkeys that made a discordant noise—the loud execrations of drunken soldiers, commingled with still worse language uttered by lawless females—the croaking of frogs in a puddle of green water a few feet in the rear of the shanty. Within the bites and buzz of tormenting flies, mosquitoes, rats, fleas, and piques were in abundance; miscellaneous were the sounds, stings, and smells that composed the lullaby where your humble servant was a gentleman lodger.

With respect,

SINBAD.

LATEST FROM MONTEVIDEO.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT)

The arrivals here have been unusually heavy. In fact, it is rather a felicitous arrangement for us that as fast as vessels come in we can send them up to Buenos Ayres, that bourne from whence no cargo returns. This place is considerably overstocked, not only with imports, but with exports. Wools are coming in by land and water every hour to be stored in the Barracas. All the principal estancieros are shipping on, as they say, their own account, but I say on account of there being no buyers in the market.

A rather laughable occurrence took place here the other day. A French gentleman who had arrived at the Oriental began to find himself greatly watched wherever he went, whether to the Bolsa or the rooms. Young —, the woolbroker, was on his track. Even at the Casino some barraqueros tried to make his acquaintance. The cat was let out of the bag, however, by one of your subscribers going up to the gentleman in question and offering him his wool. Then ensued what the French term an *eclaircissement*—the supposed French woolbuyer being an agent for one of your famed Buenos Ayres wine manufactories, where, from a cask of aguardiente, the finest wines and brandies in the Plate are manufactured.

What will become of the estancieros? I hear in every one's mouth; but these gentlemen seem to be far less concerned than their barraqueros: they stop at the Oriental; eat the best strawberries (when there are any), and drink the best wines with a nonchalance which defies the intellects of their friends at the *bovedas*.

Talk not to us down here of a ruined staple or depressed wool market. Never did things look brighter; hotels crowded, steamboats arriving momentarily, street pavements going on by the league, new railways, new tramways, new elections, and, in fact, everything new save governors and rulers; but we are well satisfied with the man already in power. I do believe that, if Mr. Lettsom was governor of this place the Britishers would not be half so contented. Flores is, by degrees, becoming the same as one of ourselves, and I hope yet to see him stand at the bar at Seymours and call for his cocktail with the *sang froid* of an American captain. If you take any interest in my career I may tell you that I have gone heavily into the "fomento" and lottery. At the rate things are going on I shall soon own half Montevideo. The bond business looked very tempting, but it has collapsed. One of our biggest bond men has gone up to your city, and is now, I believe, stopping at Watson's, in Belgrano.

There is not a particle of news in the papers, and the public have reason to rejoice that there is one paper less. This place seems to be the grave of printing offices. A Spanish printing office owned by a widow lady has come to grief, place soaked, types knocked about, damage serious, whole affair placed in hands of the tallest foreign minister in this city, your friend, Mr. Creus.

It is the prayer of many of your subscribers that you would not praise up the Oriental Hotel as you do. Since the new house has been opened it is not at all the thing—poor attendance, cold dinners, &c. I mention the matter, as I believe a word from the Standard will have its effect on

your Hill of Howth friend, Don Ramon. The place is gradually assuming more the character of a large boarding-house than anything else.

The great talk of the day is about poor Seymour and his safe. It appears that the safe was of small dimensions, very strong, but, like much of your English gold, very light. He bought the safe from Mr. Towers, and when bargaining for it, Mr. T. advised him to buy a larger one. The safe was put up close behind the counter, and at an agreeable distance from the drugging department. The night before the robbery, there was a grand blow out at Seymours, an amateur supper; the next day the safe was gone. As yet I can find out nothing further about this unfortunate affair. The safe and its contents, after all what do they amount to? A mere trifle? And yet what a row about nothing, people cannot go on the Bolsa without hearing all about this missing safe, as I passed in the other day, I declare Mr. Scarnichi and some other of the leading merchants of this place stared at me, just as if I had the safe in my pocket. Why dont you put in your paper a photograph of the safe with Seymour weeping hard by, in a few hours the missing safe would turn up. Nothing now-a-days like appealing to sympathy.

Another Brazilian ironclad the Parais has come; it would have been better to have called her the "Parado" since she goes to join all the other ironclads that are so long stationed between Ourupaiti and Humaita; as she goes by your port you ought to get your countryman Mr. O'Gorman to put those two unhappy fellows called Luzbel and Mephistopheles on board of her, and ship them up to the war. I can stomach as much trash and nonsense as any other man, but these two insipid writers for the papers here ought to be put in the pillory or made to stand candidates for the Presidency; they are even worse than the street organ-grinders, for their lucubrations are pushed on to the breakfast table, and there is no escaping them. People who want to know what is going on in Buenos Ayres, whether native or foreign always call for the Standard, and I am pleased to say that its columns possess the same salt, vigor and fire as when you sent down that great Trinity man to open your office round the corner. Go on, gentlemen, in your career; keep always up to the mark, and as long as the weather keeps hot, and letter writing proves refreshing, prepare to hear from your own

ZOZIMUS.

THE STANDARD ABROAD.

No. 4.

St. Vincent, Cape Verde Islands, October 22nd, 1867.

We arrived here this morning, and as Sor Santos is also here with a new steamer for the River Plate it affords me a chance of writing.

We left Bahia on Sunday (13th) and reached Pernambuco on Tuesday morning, the N. A. steamer had just arrived and I sent you a short note, of which however I am doubtful whether it was in time for the mail. Some of our passengers went ashore at Pernambuco, and reported it as a very miserable place. There is a picturesque suburb on the hill of Olfada, but the place has been deserted as unwholesome: the old Jesuit college is occupied by a few friars.

The new U. S. flagship Guerrière was at Pernambuco, bound southwards, with Admiral Davis on board; she is a magnificent vessel of 3500 tons, although styled only a sloop; Captain Leods said she was as fine a frigate as ever he saw in his life. It seems the ironclad, supposed American, which we passed a few days before was a Japanese man-of-war recently bought from the Americans; she did not reply to our signals.

We had fine weather all the way from Pernambuco, although for two days some of Mother Cary's chickens, or 'stormy petrels' followed us persistently. The Atlantic was as smooth as a mill-pond, and we had our game of quoits every morning on the quarter-deck. The evenings with us are remarkably stupid, there being no piano; no band of music, no dancing, no singing, and nothing but a rubber of whist. There is not even a book-case on board, and we have exhausted the joint stock of books among the passengers.

It was very interesting to see the exchange of rockets and signals that we made twice at night with vessels passing. We have not seen the outward mail; she left here on Sunday. The Rev. Mr. Pondleton read prayers on Sunday, and I am told preached an impressive sermon. In the afternoon two of the sailors had a scuffle, and

one of them was put in irons. The heat has been something dreadful during the past week.

This island of St. Vincent is the most barren spot on the world's surface. Figure to yourself an island with sundry bold ranges of mountains, but not a particle of vegetation; in its whole extent there is not a blade of grass, not a weed. Two palm-trees near the barrack, and two orange-trees on the beach, are sustained in some miraculous manner. The port is spacious and secure; on one side a small fort, flying the Portuguese flag, overlooks the shipping; on another the summit of an adjacent mountain bears a striking resemblance to the head of Washington: the outline is a gigantic likeness, marked against the sky. Mr. Miller, the English Consul, has a cottage a little above the town, which is a straggling collection of about a hundred houses, built of stone. I never saw anything neater than the little church. There is an English cemetery up the hill-side.

The water is so clear and blue that the natives will dive for a shilling, and catch it before it reaches the bottom. The boatmen sell some very pretty mats and inlaid work-boxes, which come from Madeira. There is also a good supply of fruit from the island of San Antonio, whose ragged and lofty outline is seen a few miles westward.

There are numerous war-vessels here; one is a Dutchman bound for Java, another Brazilian, another French. The garrison of the place consists of a company of Portuguese soldiers: the natives are all black, and occupy themselves in coaling the steamers.

We are to leave at 2 p.m.

MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS IN THE CAMP.

By a decree just published we notice that the Provincial Government has ordered that new elections for municipales shall take place on Sunday 8th Dec. in the Partidos of Lobos and Mercedes. This gives us occasion to caution those of our camp friends who may wish to take part in the proceedings to consider well the character of the candidates to whom they give their votes; and not to allow themselves to become mere tools of a party whose only object is to retain the power in their hands so as to perpetuate the arbitrary system of camp administration which since the time of Rosas has tended more than anything else to keep the camp in its present degraded and miserable condition. The country districts require men of independent character and strict probity, men who will spend the municipal funds in improving the towns, making good roads, and organizing an efficient police force; and not those who squander the public money in fireworks, balls and banquets to their friends, and other such nonsense and their time in fomenting petty squabbles and local intrigues. These remarks have been suggested by our having been informed that in the late elections in Mercedes several Irishmen were, by the persuasion of some designing men, induced unwittingly to lend themselves to an election trick so as to bring in the unpopular candidate Don Eustaquio Cardoso, the substitution of whose name for that of D. Severo Santos was the cause of the popular disturbance which put an untimely end to the elections.

LATEST FROM BRAZIL.

Pará.—The organization of the company proposed to undertake the navigation of the Madeira, Puris and Negro with the subsidies granted for encouragement of the enterprise was being proceeded with, and 4,000 shares had been subscribed for. The promoter, Sr. Alexandro Paulino de Brito Amorim was on the point of starting for England to contract for the necessary vessels for the service. By the Tabatinga packet intelligence had been received that the Peruvian exploring expedition under Admiral Tucker, which had examined the rivers Pachitá and Ucayale, had arrived at Iquitos and would descend the Amazon.

Maranhão.—The expedition sent to destroy the quilombas of ruagways and vagabonds in the district of Maracassumé had returned to Turyassú having got out of provisions. For eleven days after leaving the settlements they forced their way through the woods without finding any traces of what they were in search of, and at the end of that time, coming on the road of the Montes-Areosa company, they proceeded to the mines and there obtained some information which enabled them to find a small quilomba where one negro was killed, and one wounded and a negress were captured. Further information spoke of a large

one of 80 persons being at a place called Jurumun, and the expedition set out to find it but, as before stated, their provisions failed and they returned. While doing this they were fired into one morning at daybreak and one was killed and several wounded. Of the quilombos 3 are reported killed. The great difficulty experienced was that no one could be induced to serve as guide, owing to the fears entertained of the quilombos' vengeance. It was however, ascertained that the chief quilomba was about Montes-Aureos. The police were seeking information as to the dealers with the quilombos and had one woman in custody. The Indians of the Pindaré had in general made peace with the government agent but some tribes still remained hostile, and on some of the roads arrows were found tied in trees, which is one of their modes of declaring war.

Rio Grande do Norte.—The returns of the senatorial election, although not yet accurately known, indicated Dr. Amaro at the top of the list, while the party returns varied considerably as to the other two elected to complete it.

Small-pox was raging in various parts of the province, and the American corvette Pawnee had many sick amongst the seamen. These had been landed and placed in the lazaretto by permission of the president.

The medical committee have reported in favor of Dr. Górdilho's process of injecting subjects for dissection, a body so treated showing at the end of 28 days no symptoms of decomposition.

Rio Grande do Sul.—In the Provincial Assembly the committee on industry reported in favor of re-issuing to the President the contract for quays at Rio Grande, together with Dr. Durao's new proposition, inasmuch as the Chamber was not competent to accept modifications, and this had been agreed to.

The committee on commerce had also reported a bill to authorize the President to contract with a company for the clearing of the bar of the S. Goncalo, and guarantee 8 per cent. on the capital expended, not exceeding 500,000\$; a tax to be levied thereon on the vessels and goods passing.

Matto Grosso.—The small-pox had committed terrible ravages among the unvaccinated population of Cuyabá, and in a little more than one month 1500 persons perished by this disease. On the 25th of August 150 died, and for some days the mortality continued at about 40. Among the troops of the expedition to Corumbá the disease had worn itself out, and on their arrival in the city they were employed in the care of the sick and in sanitary measures, while the Paraguayan prisoners were used as a burial corps, receiving pay for their labors.

The steamer Jaurú had been got afloat again, and had been brought to Melgaco.

The small steamer which Dr. Conto de Magalhães had caused to be taken to pieces for conveyance to the Araguaya, was journeying slowly towards this river, and the President was in strong hopes of shortly realizing his favorite project of effecting the steam navigation of this magnificent internal communication.

GOLD IN THE BANDA ORIENTAL.
(Copy of a letter sent to the *Tribuna* in Montevideo.)

Tacuarembó, 15th Nov. 1867.
As the gold bearing regions of Cuñapiru are at the present moment attracting public attention in this and the neighbouring Republic. I deem it but prudent to correct the exaggerated reports that have without doubt inadvertently crept into the particulars of Sr. Junyru's petition which appeared in your issue of the 26th ult. Having just returned from an examination of several important quartz lodes containing gold in more or less quantities, in Corrales and Cuñapiru, amongst which are fouras denounced by Sr. Junyru. I was much surprised to notice a statement that the 'lay' was in one of them 124 ounces to 200 arr. (i.e.) that out of every 200 arrobes of quartz taken out of the lode, there would be 124 ounces of gold! And an average of the 8 asked for no less than 84 per 'cajon.' I can conscientiously affirm from an experience extending over the space of 17 years, gathered in some of the principal gold fields of the world, both in quartz reefs and alluvial deposits. That there is no 'lay' in gold that is to say, it is impossible except by practical working, to say from day to day what amount of gold, quartz bodies actually contain; (this applies also to alluvial deposits). A tolerably near estimate may be made by very careful sampling and assaying of a large heap, but that even will never bear out the results contain-

ed in the heaps itself. I never yet found two days work to tally; it is totally different to copper, lead or silver mining, these we can make an approximate calculation as to the real value of the lode, such a mine as this would soon produce so fabulous an amount of gold, as the quartz is almost inexhaustible, that it would soon eclipse half the sum of the mines in Australia or California. I do not believe as a whole that any branch of industry can prove of more value either to the State or private individual than mining when legitimately entered into, for it contributes largely to the maintenance of many other professions and trades, that more or less depend upon it for support, but with hopes raised far beyond the true probability of its results, it leads many to enter it, as a gambling speculation and then failures ensue, and what might have formed a blessing to thousands becomes a curse. In thus writing I do not wish for one moment to damp the hopes and expectations of those who are desirous of entering into this new kind of enterprise in this country, far from it, I would encourage them, and would draw the attention of the Government and public in general, both here and in Europe to the fact that there lie at present hidden in the Mountains of Cuñapiru and Corrales deposits of gold of at least equal richness with those in Australia, New Zealand, California, Nicaragua, or British North America. The same class of ancient rocks and argillaceous and ferruginous sands exists here as in those places. The principal portion of the alluvial deposits that I have seen extending over many leagues, will with proper appliances return large profits to the adventurous miner. The quartz lying in boulders on the tops of the hills I have seen broken under my inspection, and the pieces of gold taken out. Large quantities have in this way been extracted, but with the class who have followed this avocation, the truism that gold easily won is recklessly spent is verified, for they soon lose it in drink or gambling. One man I know paid the owner of the ground, 4 ounces of gold in advance for permission to work one month, and with a simple hammer and wooden basin crushed and washed 27 ozs. Another paid 2 ozs. for the privilege of collecting quartz stones for one month. I have washed gold from the debris of one of the lodes which gave about 2 ozs. to the ton. This will give you some idea of the richness of the vein. A Sr. Saurez who has been dead some years, was the first discoverer of these mines, on the property of one who shared with him the result of his industry, which proved a fortune to both, notwithstanding this gold mining has not been pursued partly owing to insecurity, and partly to the laws not according to the adventurous miner the right to pursue his avocation without the permission of the owner of the ground, and as all these lands are claimed whether rightly or wrongly, the survey of the country only will prove mining has been but little thought of. Now, however, that the Government have issued a decree, upon which they intend to frame new mining laws abolishing in toto that of 1863 and giving to the discoverer or capitalist the right to enter upon and work any metalliferous ground if the owner does not or cannot do so, there is a new field at once open for the employment of a vast capital and of a certain class of men who would not otherwise come to this country, but who once brought here will year after year develop riches that must attract multitudes to these shores, thus adding strength to the Government and bringing the benefits of civilization to these at present unoccupied and unprofitable sections of the country. And if the Government will still further extend its assistance and protection as in Australia, by offering rewards of \$5000 and a double claim to the discoverers of a payable gold field which can support a certain number of people, giving to each person the power to work a claim of so many varas cuadradas until he has worked it out, when he can seek another, under a licence which he could carry about with him of the value of £1 sterling, and if the auriferous deposits should be found to be on private ground give the proprietors the power to charge a tax of 2 dollars on each claim, then would the treasury find its coffers overflowing and the country be in every way benefitted by the stream of immigration that would immediately pour in.

Hoping that gold mining may not be permitted to become a dead letter for the future,

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,
HUBERT BANKART, M.E.

MEANDERINGS IN SOUTH AMERICA
(A. D. 1867.)

No. VII.—FROM PAYSANDU SOUTHWARDS.
As the verb "To meander," (according to Walker's Dictionary) signifies—"to run winding, to be intricate"—I claim the privilege of a momentary wheel-about to give you an account of Soriano which I find in Don Manuel de la Sota's "Historia del Territorio Oriental del Uruguay." It appears that the foundation of this town dates from A. D. 1624, when Don Francisco de Cespedes was Governor of Buenos Ayres, and the Reverend Padre Bernardo de Guzman with two other priests were occupied in the conversion of the Uruguayan Indians. At this period some tribes dwelt on the islands in front of the mouth of Rio Negro. After having christianized more than one thousand souls of the Charrua and Chana bodes these priests had erected three churches, one of which and the only remaining is that of Santo Domingo Soriano (Saint Dominick Soriano)—the very identical Soriano, at which our fellow-passenger the organ grinder went on shore, when coming down the Rio Negro. I learn further that between this place of Soriano and the cataract of the last named river, some few miles above the modern town of Mercedes, several missions established by the Jesuits, which were for the most part destroyed by the impiety of the Mamelukes. In an account of the Abipones, from the Latin of Martin Dolerizhoffer, it is said:—"The Mamelukes are a set of people born of Portuguese, Dutch, French, Italian or German fathers, with Brazilian women, celebrated for their skill in shooting and robbing—ready for any daring enterprise, and thence distinguished by the foreign name of Mamelukes. For it was their custom to carry off the Indians led by the fathers to the freedom of the children of God into the hardest slavery. In the space of one hundred and thirty years two millions of Indians were slain or carried into captivity by the Mamelukes of Brazil; and more than one thousand leagues of country as far as the river Amazon was stripped of inhabitants. From a letter written by the King of Spain in 1833, it appears that in five years, three hundred thousand Paraguayan Indians were carried into slavery to Brazil."
During my few days at Paysandu, I visited, in company with Mr. Thomas O'Connor, the saladero—still the property of Messrs. Daniel and Richard Williams—where the Morgan process for beef curing is carried on. I was fortunate enough to be present during the operation. It is needless for me to describe it, as this has been done in Dr. Morgan's pamphlet as well as Mr. Ford's report. There were several animals lying about—destined to be cut into beef in three hours after being injected with the salt and salt peter solution, by which it is preserved. Each animal had a small piece of board, laid on its side, indicating the aforesaid time in chalked letters. The saladero is situated about a league to the North of the town, but at the time of my visit the working did not seem very active. At the establishment they have a pig, a mare, and a lamb, injected some few years ago with the preserving liquid—and seeming still to be sound meat. I brought with me a morsel of round of beef with a small portion of charqui, which had been cured two years previously, and that were in excellent condition of salt meat.
In the neighbourhood of Paysandu there are several English estancieros, and I had the pleasure of spending a few days under the hospitable roof of one—my worthy friend, Mr. R. B. Hughes—whose attention to my comfort as well as anxiety to obtain for me every information about the country I shall never forget. Mr. Hughes's estancia is at a distance of about four leagues South of Paysandu town, and is called "La Paz." The land here consists of about 5 leagues, 1053 cuádras—comprising seven suertes and a quarter, with 23 puestos spread over them, and containing between sixty and seventy thousand sheep. In this (the sheep) department of the estancia, Mr. Hughes tells me, that he finds the Lincoln cross with mestizos of the country to be better and more productive than the Rambouillet cross with the same. There are, likewise, from six to seven thousand heads of cattle—a large proportion of them being a cross from the Durham short horn. On one day during my visit, I rode over with one of Mr. Hughes's young men; Señor Casimir Gomosynski (a Pole) to see a herd of these cattle, which one of the care-takers had assembled on a Roleo, and amongst them were animals, of an appearance sufficiently attractive to grace the

stalls of Leadenhall or Newgate market. The estancia is bounded by three arroyos—the Arroyo Negro, Arroyo Rabon, and the Cauquay.

Five years ago Mr. Hughes got out from England four short-horn Durham bulls, and four cows. Two of whom died soon after their arrival, but the bulls thrived well from the beginning. In the present time (March 1867) he has from 12 to 15 hundred mestizos; and amongst this herd I saw some four-year-olders; that may be emphatically termed beauties.

Mr. Hughes had sixty acres of land, laid out for a quinta and farm, and was about to erect an azotea house, quite contiguous to where his pretty little cottage stands. I passed at this place some of the pleasantest time of my sojourn on my recent meanderings,—for Mr. Hughes keeps the best of sauce beneath his hospital roof, namely, a gentlemanly welcome for his visitors.

Connected with this establishment, are a carpenter's and a blacksmith's shop—adjoining the wool galpon.

In the neighborhood we find estancias of several Englishmen—of Mr. Drysdale, who, although owning twenty thousand sheep, has a model place, in consequence of the care he takes of his flocks. Mr. W. Plowes (since dead) had an estancia about three leagues from Paysandu, and on the road to Mr. Hughes's—besides we have those of Mr. Gaynor, Mr. Green, and Mr. Bell, the three last named being situated to the South of the Arroyo Negro.

The average price of land in the Paysandu department is ten thousand dollars (Montevidean) per suerte.

Whilst not pretending to any status in Veterinary Pathology, I must confess myself rather puzzled at what I heard, during my stay at Mr. Hughes'—of an item in Gaucho horse doctor's prescriptions, this for the cure of worms; be the animal to be operated on a horse or bullock.—The *modus operandi* is the same, and is done in the following manner. When the sick beast is about to be turned out to his work in the morning, a piece of the sod on which one of his hoofs has stood is now turned up with a knife, and the sign of the cross is drawn over the under part of the sod turned up. Many persons have told me of their witnessing several cures resulting from this simple thing; although, like my readers, as well as myself not pretending to understand its rationale.

*Page 121, Sib. 11, Cap. 1.

MONTEVIDEAN WOOL MARKET.

No wool sales yet, and holders firm on account of the extra quality of actual clip. The following lots, of a superior description, are being shipped on farmers' account:—

Hodgskin	3,000
Gustavus Heber	8,000
Theodore Reissig	6,000
Belgrano, Hermanos	2,000
Porriá	2,500
Artagaveitia	1,500
Richard Hughes	4,000
Gevens, Brothers	5,000
Jaimé Cibils	1,000
	33,000
Sundries	17,000
Besides the wools from Mr. Jackson's estancia.	
Second list of parcels going to be shipped on farmers' account:—	
Ar.	
John Quevedo	6,000
Godifray	1,000
James Lowry	2,000
Edward Barthold	2,000
Charles Collins	1,500
Charles W. Diehl	3,500
Faustino Mendez	1,500
Wendelstadt & Co.	8,000
José di Buschental	2,000
Mallmann & Co.	6,000
John MacNeill	1,500
Juan Victorica	1,000
	36,000

No sales effected so far.
December 2, 1867.

TRIBUNAL DE COMERCIO.

The following is a list of the Sincos or Trustees named for the ensuing year:

Sres. Don Alejandro Martinez, Anrelo del Cerro, Carlos Wlneveh, Odon Trelles, Carlos Zingler, Evaristo Noguera, José Señorans, Pedro O. Claypole, Luis Davies, Eduardo Amadeo, Martin Berrando, Fernando Uriarte, Francisco David, Juan B. Molina, Ni, capor Tejeria, Federico Sivils, Adolfo Coqueteaux, Natalio Cernadas, Ebraud Rodman, Pedro A. G. Ebbake, Angel M. Mendez, Bartolome Devotto, Juan Ladusse, Inocencio Garcia Fernandez, Roberto Soria Adolfo Biaye, Luis Muñoz, Julio Sanchez, José Piaggio, Ramon Berrando

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The hot weather which continues, set in rather suddenly a fortnight ago, and the violent change of temperature has been the cause of some sickness; but the latest mortality returns are not above the average at this season. But so long as the siege operations last in Paraguay, the germs of disease will always be in the north wind; and it behoves everyone to take precautions; and at the same time not to allow themselves to be alarmed by rumors of cholera which in a virulent form seldom appears at this time of the year.

We see it stated in an English paper of Oct. 12th, that in Australia, and New Zealand sheep have increased so rapidly, that it has become a question what is to be done with the animals.

The *Tribuna* correspondent at Tuyucú, reports the return of Col. Correa from his expedition into the Interior, as far as San Juan. The only result of the raid seems to be the capture of 800 head of cattle. The heat at the camp was insufferable.

The correspondent of the *Ferro-Carril* says—"The batteries at Tayi are impregnable, and the line of circumvallation is complete. The rumor is very general, that within a few days there will be a force uniting cavalry, infantry, and artillery, sent to Asuncion. In all last week five Brazilian transports passed Rosario with reinforcements."

We observe some complaints as to the manner in which goods are treated in their transport by the Central Argentine Railway, particularly at the Frayle Muerto station, where the train to Villanueva stops only half-an-hour, during which time the merchandise for Fraile Muerto is unceremoniously pitched out of the waggons, to the great detriment of frangible articles.

A general meeting of the members of the Athletic Society takes place this evening in the school-room attached to the English Church. A full attendance is desired to promote the business of this prosperous club.

The new journal, the *Porvenir Argentino*, made its appearance on Tuesday morning. We greet it as a new apostle of Liberalism, and according to its programme, as a fellow-worker also in the interest of sheep-farmers and cattle-breeders.

An auction sale of lands, at the Lomas de Zamorra, which took place on Sunday last, had a very poor result. We must attribute this to the heat, and the impossibility of extra exertion on the part of buyers, and certainly not to the want of attraction in the lots offered or the locality. The Sra. Belbis divided a property into 12 lots, and Mr. Ayres, the auctioneer, was instructed to sell them; but only two were disposed of: one at \$3,000, and another at \$1,000 or thereabouts. The auction was then suspended.

Mr. Pestariardo the enterprising lessee of our lyric theatres, has resolved upon building a new theatre in Buenos Ayres. This step is almost forced upon him, owing to the impossibilities of disposing of anything like their value the enormous collection of stage properties, and operatic scores in his possession. He has purchased a piece of land for the new theatre, in the calle Corrientes, two squares from Florida. The property is 29 varas in breadth and nearly full fondo. The Colon theatre is only 25 varas in breadth from corridor to corridor. The building of the new theatre will not be so large as the Colon, but its stage capabilities will be sufficiently extensive, and no doubt all the newest appliances will be adopted so as to make it one of the most complete lyric theatres in South America.

Notwithstanding the intense heat of the weather, the two last concerts given by Mr. Gottschalk at the Colon were most successful. We observe in a late number of the *Orchestra*, an influential musical and dramatic organ in London, that the "Misses Gottschalk, sisters of the celebrated Gottschalk of Louisiana, have just returned from Yarmouth, where they have been giving a charity concert. According to all accounts the success with which these young ladies met was most unanimous."

Respecting the Montevidean wool market, we have received another report; not a single sale made during the week, and another long list of estancieros who ship on their own account. We heard yesterday of a sale of Benitez's wool in Entre Rios, a very fine lot and in excellent condition, free of burr and abrojo, at two patacones per arroba deliverable on the estancia. This however, in Entre Rios is considered a very high price, and no other wools command this price, the average price paid about Gualeguay being two Bolivians per arroba.

The laying of the foundation stone of the new theatre at Concepcion del Uruguay was celebrated by an unusual display. It was the first important act of the Asociacion Promotora del Progreso, patronised by the Municipality of the capital of Entre-Rios. The speeches made on the occasion by the President of the Association and General Urquiza are published, but we cannot find any striking passages for quotation. They are chiefly occupied with the glorification of the institutions of the Province of Entre-Rios, described as an oasis in the political wilderness called the Argentine Confederation.

Among the passengers that left on Tuesday in the Arno we must not omit to mention the interesting family of our friend Mr. Wilks, which is presented by him to the Zoological Gardens in Regent Park, London. Our friend will have the rare good fortune of filling up a vacuum in that unparalleled collection, as he had been particularly charged by the Secretary to endeavour to do by procuring for that institution a Comadreja. He has addressed by this packet to the Zoological gardens a box containing a female Comadreja with a litter of young ones. This animal belongs to the order of marsupials, so called from the presence of a more or less complete marsupium, or abdominal pouch in the female for the protection of her young. This pouch is closed in ordinary times, but the mother opens it with her nails for her young ones to take shelter in after they are born and until they arrive at maturity, when the pouch closes itself to be re-opened in the same manner when exigencies render it necessary. The Comadreja which is peculiar to South America as far as Buenos Ayres belongs to the family of the didelphidae, of which the opossum is one; it is not a phytophagous, but a carnivorous animal, and is nocturnal in its habits, generally hiding in day time. The one sent by Mr. Wilks and which will shortly attract the attention of the London sight seers, was caught in the Tigre.

The intense heat continues, notwithstanding the refreshing showers on Monday. Yesterday morning, at 7 o'clock, the thermometer stood 86 in a cool sequestered spot in our office. The consumption of manufactured ice is such that Messrs. Demarelli Bros. are put to their utmost to supply the cafes, and at private houses it is almost impossible to get regularly served. Great hopes are centred in the new Municipality respecting a new water supply for the city; we hope they may not prove delusive, but we adhere to our conviction—what the city requires is a Board of Works.

The elections in Montevideo passed off quietly, resulting in a complete triumph for the Government. One of our colleagues publishes a rather ludicrous correspondence respecting these elections, and states that the Paraguayan war prisoners voted. We confess we very much doubt this, although it must be admitted that elections as a general rule are a hollow farce in this country.

A French officer at headquarters has been making a great row at Tayucú. It appears that he held a commission, but no regiment, and complained so much of the fare and treatment that he has been placed under arrest. The principal charge against him is his great sympathy with the cause of Lopez, and his stating that he would prefer to serve under Lopez if possible. The heat at headquarters is something unprecedented, and if the weather continues as at present all offensive operations will have to be suspended.

An English shopkeeper, who has just returned from a southern tour, reports all the small farmers very badly off, perfectly unable to make both ends meet.

Dr. Healy, who has a wide circle of friends here, has been made a member of the Royal Zoological Society, Ireland, having presented three River Plate ostriches. The doctor is now about to take home a Puma, which, doubtless, will be a great curiosity in the far-famed city of Dublin.

In the Municipal election returns we are pleased to see a few Anglo-Saxon and foreign names. Mr. Drabble is returned for the Socorro and we hope he will stick to his post, and not allow cold water to be thrown over his proposals. Mr. Folmar is elected for the Cathedral parish. The public on reviewing the list will indulge in great expectations and in the hope that the reign of Municipal old-foginess is coming to an end.

The news of the defeat of the Montonera in the North, and flight of Varela into Bolivia is confirmed by official despatches received by the Government from Generals Taboada and Navarro.

The scientific Peruvian expedition had arrived at Iquitos, under the command of Captain Tucker, having explored the Amazonian tributaries, Pachitea and Ucayali, and now propose to descend the Amazon.

A new Brazilian company is about to be started for the purpose of navigating the rivers Madeira, Parus, and Negro. The empresario has issued 4,000 shares, and started for England to raise the money.

There is at present building in France a new steamer for the merchants of Gualeguay, who have subscribed, started a company, and shortly expect the steamer out. We hear of several wool sales in and about Gualeguay for two Bolivian dollars per arroba.

The very fine French steamer Poutou, now in port, is really a credit to the Marseilles line. She is one of the finest steamers in the river, measures 110 metres long, and has four donkey engines on board, for loading and unloading. She has brought 300 tons cargo for Montevideo, and 700 tons for Buenos Ayres. With the object of making a still more rapid trip, these steamers will not henceforth call at Tenerife and Pernambuco.

The Astronomical steamer Humboldt was due at Rio on the 24th, and will be due in Montevideo on Monday.

We call the attention of parties looking for employment to the fact, that at the emigration office in Montevideo, Calle Colon, No. 79, there are various situations as medianeros, &c., open on estancias in Paysandu, Cerro Largo, Canelones, and San José. About 60 female servants required in the city, and fifty carpenters, smiths, and masons—the highest wages paid.

The mail brings the news that an English steamer bound for Buenos Ayres, called the Bewley, has put in at Cape Frio in distress.

The American mails bring news of a fearful storm at the Island at St. Thomas on the 29th ult., 45 vessels perished in the storm, and about 150 lives lost; the storm is represented as the most terrible ever known on the Island, and the damage done to property on the Island can only be estimated in millions. We shall publish to-morrow a full account of it, given to us by a subscriber.

The English society in Montevideo mustered in great force at the San Felipe Theatre, on Tuesday evening last, to witness the amateur performance of "The Irish Tiger," and "Our Clerks." It is a disagreeable task to criticise the performances of amateurs; but the truth must be told. We will begin by stating that there was but one fault, and that is one to which all novices are liable, namely, not speaking loud enough to be heard in all parts of a theatre. The acting and the 'get-up' of the performers was perfect, and too much praise cannot be awarded to those gentlemen who labored so assiduously in such a good cause. Nightly rehearsals in this warm weather is no joke, still the performers worked on together, stopping at no sacrifice, even to that of a budding whisker or sprouting monstache, and success has crowned their efforts, as over \$1,000 has been received for the Hospital Fund. The 'Negro Minstrels,' from the Narcissus, were the great attraction to the Hermosas Montevideanas. Their admirable get up, and singing was very good, every song being encored; their final song and march 'To Dixey' will never be forgotten in Montevideo. The upper boxes, 'cazuela,' and pit were not as crowded as they should have been, still there was what might be well termed a very fashionable attendance. We noticed present Messrs. Munjo, Marques, M'Coll, Alvarez, Viana, Wilson, and families; Captain Wilson and the officers of the Narcissus; Captain Cosbie, Capt. Michell and officers of the Shamokin, Spider, and Dotere.

The Arno arrived early on Wednesday. Mr. and Mrs. Earle visited the beautiful quinta of Buschenthal, and were entertained with a numerous company at dinner the same evening.

Under date 20th Nov. the Minister of Interior, Dr. Rawson, has replied to the note of Sr. Davila the Governor of the Province of Rioja complaining of the conduct of General Arredondo. Dr. Rawson professes surprise at the gravity of the accusations against an officer high in command in the National army. The Minister expresses his desire and determination to interfere as little as possible in the internal affairs of the provinces of the confederation; but he notifies the Governor of Rioja that orders dated 20th October, had been sent to Gen. Arredondo to return to the capital where he will have to answer the accusations of Señor Davila, when these are submitted in due form.

The *Tribuna* of Tuesday mildly attempted to palliate the conduct of Arredondo in his Cromwellian progress through the remote provinces of the confederation. Looking at the affair in the abstract it will probably admit of no defence; but examined relatively to the conduct of the Taboada and other country despots, it is quite possible that Arredondo is only fighting those people with their own weapons. It is however a very serious question for the National Government to treat, for if hypocrites choose to quote scripture, and call the acts of Arredondo scandalous, his friends have no other recourse but the *tu quoque* argument.

Mr. Brookes has a Camp Eleven to play a return Cricket match on the 9th proximo. We hope sincerely they will win if only to repay him his trouble and the gentlemen who so kindly come forward to play at great inconvenience. We pronosticate a crowd on the ground, many of the fair sex being determined to be present. The following are more or less his team:—Messrs. Upcher, Lockyer, Tarrant, Stephenson, Mason, Tillard, Hammond, Fraser, Bradshaw, White and Brookes.

We can hardly credit that the following is the Eleven selected to play the Camp men on the 9th proximo:—M. Billingham, C.B. Krabbe, Dr. Quintana, J. Fair, A. Bell, D. Crauwell, G. Drabble, Rev. J. Smith, H. Harratt, H. A. Green, F. Reynolds. A difficulty we hear is that some of the Eleven refuse to play unless the Rev. Mr. Stirling is sent for from the Falkland Islands to stand umpire.

The removal of the Saladeros to Ensenada is the most interesting subject of the day. Apart from the sanitary question, it involves the probable formation of a new city on the margin of the Plata. Anticipating the results of scientific enquiry, and the determination of the Government, Messrs. Bedoya, Cambaceres, Saavedra and Wilks, have purchased several lots of the Ensenada Municipal lands. The lots have already been measured, and the first instalment of the price is paid. The terms were third cash, third at 3 and third at 6 months. The buyers however offer to pay all cash, being anxious to get their titles at once, and commence building the saladeros.

All the quinta lots of the Ensenada lands are sold, but none of the chacra lots. There are great many solares within the town, which the Municipality with judgment and true patriotism bestow only on the intelligent and industrious foreigners to the exclusion of card-playing maté drinking squatters. The importance of the port of Ensenada was appreciated by the early settlers. It can boast of its antiquities. Rosas destroyed it. It remains for the rising generation to witness the low uninteresting coast of that part of the Province adorned by the turrets and shipping of a new port, the Pirceus of Buenos Ayres. What has become of the Boca railway extension to Ensenada which was to open, we believe, on Jan. 1st, 1868?

Speaking with a scientific gentleman the other day on the merits of Darwin's famous work on the origin of species, he remarked in proof of the principles of the renowned writer that whatever the French Naturalists, and French schools may say to the contrary it is an undoubted fact which it is useless to deny that the increase of species, not to mention the other causes given by the learned Professor, depends on the quantity of food; and that, if the species is carnivorous, the food will be in proportion to the greater or less persecution which the animal creation undergoes; however to impress me more forcibly with this great truth, he illustrated his proposition by the curious fact, that since he has adopted Mr. Oranwell's of calle Rivadavia, Poisoned wheat, the rats and mice the bane of the family have wholly disappeared, but curiously enough the larger insects on which they partly fed, have increased while the mosquitoes and flies which hitherto infested the house, so that sleep and beauty were unknown to the inmates, have been utterly destroyed by cockroaches and other harmless beetles. Thus one of the greatest discoveries of modern science, and an important law in the economy of the animal creation have been most satisfactorily proved, by simply observing the effect of Oranwell of Rivadavia's Poisoned wheat, on the disappearance of rats and mice, and the immediate consequence seen in the increase of the genus beetle and finally the annihilation by the latter of flies and mosquitoes.

The mails from Montevideo brought news of the arrival of another Brazilian transport, with 400 recruits for the army, and the more agreeable item that the Union tramway project is settled and the materials momentarily expected from New York. One of the papers publishes a correspondence on the subject; in fact, there

can be little doubt our Oriental friends will shortly be driving in commodious tramway cars out to the Union round by the Cerrito, and across to the Paso Molino, whilst we here, the Athenians of South America, will be going to tea parties in bullock carts. Really, Governor Alsina ought to make a trip to Montevideo. He would see there something worth seeing, a South American city shooting ahead of the whole continent, thanks to the overweening European influence brought to bear in all municipal matters. With clasped hands we implore the Governor to do something towards getting tramways in this town. They are far more necessary here than in Montevideo. Owing to the immense distances; the Great Southern tramway is for the general public comparatively useless, owing to the terminus being in such an out of the way quarter as the Plaza Monserrat. No matter what the objection, we insist that public convenience should be consulted, and that the tramway ought, and should, and must start from the Plaza Victoria, and we hope to see the Governor order its prolongation.

We have received Mr. Van Blarcom's circular from New York. It gives a peculiarly unfavourable account of the state of the wool market. Not the slightest chance of any modification in the tariff.

The flock of sheep which has been purchased for export to the Falklands is now at Ensenada, awaiting the arrival of the vessel to take them to that destination.

We have received by the mail another Parliamentary Blue-book, which contains the diplomatic correspondence on the Paraguayan war. Some of the letters are really very amusing, but as the information they contain is old, it would hardly interest our readers. Mr. Watson wrote a very lengthy letter, giving full particulars of his trip to the allied camp. There is nothing spicy, however, in it, dry details, more suited for the House of Commons than the discriminating foreign public of Buenos Ayres.

The communication between Rio and the United States is now first-rate. There are three lines of steamers running, besides a constant stream of fast-sailing vessels. There are the American packets to New York, the Brazilian emigration line, and the New Orleans line, of which line the first steamer, *Circassian*, is daily expected. Business in Rio is, however, very dull, except with those who have army contracts.

The old Hibernian custom of showing an unwelcome visitor the shortest way down stairs—i.e., pitching him out of the window—is, we note, being introduced into the River Plate in a modified form. The last news we have from the Queen City of the Plata is a rather amusing story about one gentleman trying a sort of balcony ejection on another. The affair took place at an institution deservedly detested by wives and mothers, the club. Nothing that a vicious civilisation has introduced clashes more with domestic happiness and joy than these fashionable clubs; they sap the vitals of connubial bliss, they estrange the husband from his home, and the father from his children. We hope the new President of the Argentine Republic will abolish all the clubs, and open a free circulating library at the Progreso. But we must apologise for the digression. On the balcony in question a deadly struggle occurred; the heavier man, however, had decidedly the advantage; bystanders rushed forward when nothing but a pair of boots was visible over the rail, and rescued both parties. What all the row was about has not as yet transpired, but we believe it was remotely caused by one of the party trying to read the *Zi Pangu* hieroglyphics, stolen from the *Standard* by the *Siglo*.

A correspondent gives full particulars about poor Mr. Seymour's safe. It appears there was \$15,000 in it when the burglars walked off with it. As yet no trace of it. Seymour demanded of Bustamante the arrest of the sereno, but this was refused on the grounds that the sereno is an official or autoridad. As our friend aptly remarks, if Seymour recover his safe, he can say,

"And doth not a meeting like this make amends?" To show the results that may be obtained from the Negretti breed by proper and intelligent breeding, we beg to draw our readers' attention to the weight of fleeces of two Negretti lambs, shorn at the estancia, Sarandi, Banda Oriental, the property of Mr. Juan C. Mohr. First ewe lamb, born 19th May, 1867, shorn 19th November, 1867, six months' old, gave 7lbs. wool. Second ewe lamb, born 20th April, 1867, shorn 19th November, 1867, seven months' old, gave 6½lbs. wool. Both animals never entered a shed since they were born. A Negretti

ram, two year's old, from the same establishment, now the property of an Irishman in the province of Buenos Ayres, gave a twelve month's fleece of 15lbs. These facts are guaranteed to us on the highest authority.

The Arredondo question threatens to assume very alarming dimensions. It is said in town that he belongs to the Crudo party, and that his great crime is attachment to the leader of his party. People fear a collision between him and Taboada, and the Government edict summoning him to town to stand his trial before court-martial has been despatched by special chasques, with orders to ride night and day. Arredondo is a man of great influence, and has lent the most valuable services to the present Government during the Chaco war; but he has meddled so much in electioneering affairs that he has secured the hostility of very influential parties in the interior. The court-martial trial, however, is all a farce.

The Provincial Government has thought fit to suspend all the free passes on the Northern Railway. This is an indirect attack on Press liberty; for hitherto we travelled free as thought on that fashionable line. In those happy times it was alike a privilege as an honor to be an Editor; but nowadays Editors are in fact nobody. Such a vicious economy on the part of the Government calls for our most splenetic pen. Probably the next thing we shall hear is that Editors can have no more passes at the theatres, so intensely out of joint is everything at present. Verily, there is a screw loose at the Government House.

We have received from a subscriber the *Commercial Journal* Cape Town, October 10th brought by the Hanoverian barque *Sur Lee*, from Hong Kong, which has arrived with tea in Montevideo. We notice that wool shipments were going on briskly, the average price paid for new wool was 16s. 8d. per arroba for unwashed mestiza, which our readers will observe is far higher than the price paid here for even a much superior class of wool; but then there is no export tax, no monstrous charges, lighterage, cartage, &c. 16s. 8d. per arroba is equal at the present rate of exchange to 103 paper dollars—and yet the farmers at the Cape all complain of the miserable state of the wool market. We wonder very much what would the South African farmers say if they could get a copy of the *Standard* and see the price paid here for wools. The value of every cargo exported, is published at Cape Town. We should like to see the same custom adopted here.

The Governor has decreed the formation of a new town in the camp, at a place called Puntos del Arroyo, Tapalquen, partido Azul. The nomenclature of the embryo city is highly objectionable. Olavaria, possibly the Spanish for that historic name O'Leary the necessity for these country towns is by no means obvious, in fact we believe there is too much building going on out in the country. What the farmers and estancieros require is a better protected frontier line, and cheap lands. Whilst on the subject of frontiers, we may remark that the frontier under charge of Capt. Alvarez Barros, is very quiet, doubtless, owing to the strict punctuality in the delivery of cattle and mares to the Caciques.

A meeting of the shareholders of the Coliseum took place on Thursday evening at half-past seven precisely, in the small concert-room of the building. The room was not over-crowded. Mr. Drabble took the chair and opened the proceedings; by reading the report of the committee. Some questions were afterwards put by Mr. Bertram. These being answered to the entire satisfaction of that gentleman, and of the rest of the meeting, the report of the committee, recommending the payment of a dividend of 5 per cent. was voted unanimously. The following gentlemen were re-elected to form the committee for the ensuing year:—Messrs. Krutisch, Boyd, Niebuhr, and Drabble; and as supplentes, Messrs. Thompson, de Mot, Bertram, Leinan, and Ocarabassa. The balance to the credit of the treasurer's account of receipts and expenses for the year to November 20/1867, \$87,066.

A subscriber from San Pedro, has most kindly brought down for our museum a large fossil shell, which we expect to receive to-day and place amongst our other articles of vertu. The news from Mato Grosso is unusually bad. Small pox has decimated the Brazilians. The Paraguayans have retaken Guyaba, and upon the whole things look bad up there. Madame Mur, the prima donna of the Zurzuela company, took her benefit on Thursday. The performance was very successful, and the new *Zurzuela*, "Mis dos Mujeres" is considered to have eclipsed the "Juramento."

The news brought down from headquarters amounts to nothing: Allies and Paraguayans in the same place, Lopez busily occupied in reducing his lines and mounting his heavy guns at a very commanding point, near the Paso Pucú. It was rumored that Madame Lynch and the Archbishop had arrived at Humaita from Asuncion, having passed the Allied lines very early in the morning.

The state of the Montevideo wool market is without a parallel. Not a single sale of wool yet: barracos all crammed to overflowing, wools arriving fast each day by land and water. It will all have to be shipped for growers' account, and the agents of the estancieros, who have made large advances during the year, are now beginning to feel very nervous.

We extract the following instances of German fecundity, from a Liverpool journal of September 27th, and have no hesitation in stating that this is the style of colonist needed for the Pampas and Gran Chaco. A German newspaper says:—"Two years ago Mr. Christian Segemayer, became father of his fifty-eighth child. His first wife gave birth to twenty-three, of which six were twins and eleven single born; his second wife to nineteen, and the third and yet living wife is mother to sixteen children. Of these fifty-eight children, twenty-eight are living, all being daughters, and the man has never been sick, and enjoys good health, as do his children."

On the 8th inst. there will be a grand 'fucion' in Lujan, and the railway people, anxious to accommodate the public on that day, will issue return tickets at \$45 for the round trip.

The news from the seat of war is to the 24th inst. Both Lopez and the allies seem engaged in constructing new lines. A Paraguayan deserter reports that everything tends to a concentration of Lopez's forces around Humaita, as the artillery was being withdrawn from the outer trenches. Lopez was at Mendescué, and was sending his furniture to Humaita. He had sent 100 men to the Chaco to open a pass for cattle, in case supplies were cut off from Tayi, which latter place he intended to attack.

The mails from the interior arrived yesterday fully confirm the defeat of Varela and his flight into Bolivia, and the consequent pacification of the northern provinces. The Arredondo armed protest against the provincial influence of the caudillage is still causing excitement in Rioja and Catamarca.

The watchmaker in the Plaza Victoria, next to the Policia, had his premises sacked on Saturday night and about \$30,000 worth of watches stolen. The burglars it seems made a hole into the watchmakers shop from a small porter's room in the house of Sr. Riglos; the first opening they made they came on the iron safe, then they worked higher and ultimately effected an entrance; luckily the watchmaker had locked up everything in his safe, save some watches left to be repaired. The Chief of Police has arrested the servants of the house, and Sr. Riglos found the street door open when he came down stairs in the morning.

The municipality of Rosario have daily sittings, and show great activity in presence of the cholera, which, up to the present, however, has shown itself only in a few isolated cases. A quinta at some distance from the town has been appropriated as a cholera hospital.

The public in Rosario loudly testify their gratitude to the authorities for the vigour and judgment they have displayed.

We have been favoured with the view of a letter from the Cape of Good Hope, which represents the state of rural industry in that country in almost as bad a plight as here. The farmers are living in expectation of having their crops destroyed by locusts. The writer of the letter we refer to seems to have had many applications for information respecting the River Plate, as there are numbers of young men in South Africa anxious to emigrate to these countries. He has submitted to his friend and correspondent here a list of queries relating to the sheep industry. The answers to the queries will not look very inviting just at present, and we recommend our friend to delay replying until next year. Meantime, it is consoling to our sheepfarmers to know that in prosperous British colonies there are people worse off than they are.

The Buenos Ayres wool market never rulled duller than at present. Prices are so low that it seems impossible that they can go any lower, yet we hear of some rather unpleasant disputes in the market, caused by buyers refusing to receive wools, without

a large discount. The estimated number of bales for this year is 170,000 of which:—

105,000	bales	for	Antwerp.
5,000	do.	do.	United States.
40,000	do.	do.	France.
10,000	do.	do.	Genoa.
10,000	do.	do.	England.

The value of the clip ought to amount to five millions sterling, but owing to the terrible decline in the price of wool, it will not average over two millions sterling. If our colleagues want to know why we ship gold, we refer them to this wool export table.

We learn by private letter from London received per French mail, that the steamer City of Buenos Ayres was to have left London on the 17th ult., touching at Falmouth for a late telegram. She will bring news of the greatest moment for us all.

A private letter from the Argentine quarters at Tuyuti, gives us some information with respect to the great surprise of 3rd ult., and which is still of interest. It appears that the Hospital was left unguarded, and is so placed that it could be reached by the enemy in 15 minutes. The Paraguayans in taking complete possession of the Argentine camp, spared the hospital building, but relieved it of all such superfluities as cloths, edibles, revolvers &c. The cause of the disaster is easily explained. The point chosen by the enemy was protected by batteries of artillery, but unsupported by infantry, excepting always a valuable force called the "Cuorpo de Invalidos" and the Paraguayan legion, which contains many prisoners. In two minutes the 'Invalids' found themselves treated to doses of *Pil: Plumbi*, and of course hobbled off as they best could. The rest of the account given by our correspondent in regard to the losses both of the allies and the enemy, and the want of discipline in the latter, agrees with the statements already published.

We have been favored with a second barrel of Richardson's celebrated ale. We are informed that more than a thousand casks of this rising brand, have been sold within the last few weeks.

The steamer, which arrived on Monday from the Uruguay, brings good accounts of the camps. In the neighborhood of Salto, where a long succession of dry weather was beginning to frighten the farmers, there have lately been refreshing rains, and the young grass is springing up on all sides. The estancieros in those regions are now turning their attention to the yield of grease as much as to wool. One of them sent this year 5,000 fat sheep to the saladeros, which gave him a return of from 40 to 60lbs. He has now commenced to kill in the estancia and use the vats, a process which, if systematically pursued, will soon tend to improve the present value of sheep. At Concepcion, and all along the coast of the Uruguay, the rain seems to have been abundant, and the country is in the finest condition. We hear of a commercial failure among the native dealers in Concepcion. The amount of liabilities is not stated, but it is reported to be large. It is said that a company is formed in Buenos Ayres to work the gold regions at Cuñupiru, on the frontiers of the Banda Oriental and Brazil.

The Montevideo Government has leased the right of quarrying stone from various islands on the Banda Oriental coast. The successful bidders for the right were—José y Bernardo Garay, for the Island of Hornos, and Dos Hermanos, at 2,300 National dollars. Fernandez and Co., for the Island of Hornos, at \$1,100. Agustin Rodriguez, Island of Dos Hermanos, \$1,000. José Pizzorni the Island of Sola, for \$600.

On Saturday night an accident occurred to a party of gentlemen returning from Belgrano, which might have been attended with very serious consequences. The gentlemen in question, the 'elite' of our Caledonian community, had been celebrating at Watson's the festival of St. Andrew, the patron of Scotland. The party broke up at an hour when trains and ordinary conveyances had ceased to run; there was therefore no choice but to accept the offer of two of Mr. Watson's dog-carts, or walk. The latter alternative was thought the least feasible under the circumstances. The party, therefore, in the very best spirits, drove into town, and arriving at a spot in the Calle San Martin, nearly opposite the Universelle, the wheel of the leading conveyance came in contact with a pile of stones which had been left by the workmen engaged in repairing the pavement. Horse and trap turned a complete somersault, as did also the party, who up to that moment were inside; but, like true Scotchmen, they all fell on their feet; and when the second carriage came up, they were ranged in a row on the para-

pet, moodily contemplating the debris. It is a scandalous neglect, on the part of the Municipality, to thus leave rocks in the street at night, without light or guard, and upon which the steadiest of pilots may come to grief.

On Sunday Mr. Moñeta, the Government engineer, left for Rosario, to undertake the surveys, in connection with the proposed new railway, which is to branch off to the town of Blo Cuarto, from the nearest point on the Central-Argentine. Congress, if we remember right, voted a sum of 25,000 silver dollars for making the survey and tracing the new railway as far as Mendoza. Mr. Moñeta will be accompanied by another engineer and two students, and expects to complete his work in about three months.

The new police regulations with respect to carts and carriages driving southwards in Calle Defensa and up the Calle Balcarce came into operation on Sunday, and its benefits were amply appreciated yesterday by the residents and passers-by in those streets. It was the fashion to ridicule this Municipal reform, but everyone is now satisfied as to its necessity.

We understand that there are German brands of beer of growing repute in this city. The get-up of the corks and bottles have been particularly mentioned to us as far surpassing the two conservative methods of the English. As to the quality of the malt we can only at present judge by hearsay, but from what we are told Kröll's Lager beer must be very excellent tiple.

Our contemporary the *Republica* mentions that an unfortunate passenger was killed on the Southern tramway on Thursday last. We are happy to say that the accident in question was not fatal. The person was by his own want of caution seriously hurt by falling whilst stepping into the carriage; but he was removed to the British hospital, and by last accounts was doing well.

A fine property admirably situated in front of the Barraca Feria was offered by judicial sale, two thirds of the assessed price being only about \$60,000 and no bidder presented himself. Mr. Irigoyen was the auctioneer judicially appointed.

Mr. Senillosa has purchased a square of land at the Lomas de Zamorra. The property is situated near the church. The price paid for it is \$40,000. Mr. Senillosa purposes to build a suitable residence on his newly acquired quinta property.

On Sunday next the 8th, a native race meeting takes place on the Belgrano course. The money collected for entrance to the grand-stand and for admittance of carriages to the centre enclosure, is to be spent in the completion of the Belgrano church, a rather curious mixture of profane means with sacred ends. The entries closed the day before yesterday, and we understand that there are four races, for each of which four or five horses have been entered—making about 18 horses entered altogether. The programme is not yet published, but we hear the meeting promises to be good. There is no half round race.

Belgrano was as usual last Sunday the rendez-vous of editors, diplomats, bankers, merchants, brokers, &c. who forgetting the tedious cares of business and bidding office life adieu for the nonce, rush with gleesome souls to inhale the pure fresh zephyrs of the suburban Pampas, certain from long acquired experience that they will find at Watson's or at some friendly quinta, the creature comforts of the inner man duly provided for. The neighbourhood of the railway station at that delightful and fashionable rural locality, since Watson's symposium has been opened, presents on a summer's afternoon, particularly Sundays, as animated and attractive a scene as one can see anywhere. Hilarity and good humor somewhat heightened by the flow of champagne and cocktails reigns supreme, and there is no lack of beauty to lend enchantment to the prospect. A sale by auction had been advertised of some ground on the barranca facing the Cañitas road, 150 varas front by 600 deep. Few people however cared to forego the Cruisken to attend it, and not more than a dozen people were present. One half of the ground was only put up; and knocked down to D. Ventura Lynch at, we believe, for 65,000 dollars. The other half was not sold.

The too clever Buenos Ayres correspondent, Litzbel, of the *Stiglo*, took upon himself to quote some satirical opinions said to be expressed by General Mancilla in regard to his son Lucio's electioneering manifesto in favour of Sarmiento. The General has written to the papers distinctly stating that the *Stiglo's* information is a pure fabrication.

H. GRAHAM JOHNSTONE.
Estancia de los Hombres, Ranchos, Nov. 25, 1867.
To the Editors of the *Standard*.
Gentlemen,
As everything relating to poor Johnstone will be interesting to you, and that the readers of your paper may know the position he was placed in, should the following interest you, give it publicity:

About the end of last year, 1866, Mr. Hannah introduced poor Johnstone to me, telling me at the same time his anxiety to get some employment in Entre Rios. Upon further conversation with himself, I learned his determination to take anything, or do anything, in preference to being idle, save the occupation of a shepherd, a life too monotonous for him. Unfortunately, at the moment I had no employment to give him, but I told him if he wished to go to La Paz he should want for nothing, but, on the contrary, when he knew the language and the routine of an estancia life, he could get any employment that would suit him. I gave him a letter to my son, who gave him some trifling employment, waiting my arrival. Upon my first interview with him in La Paz, I found his wish was to be employed somewhere upon a cattle estancia, the active life and horse exercise appearing to suit him, and he offered his services to several parties who I would not hear of. One of our largest and most respectable estancieros, near La Paz, Dn. Pedro Carril, son to the respected Judge, Dn. Salvador Carril, was induced by me to take him as a book-keeper to the estancia, and, at the same time, to be under the instructions of the 'capataz,' an old and confidential servant of Sr. Carril's, a truly good man. Both Sr. Carril and the 'capataz' were pleased at the acquisition of Johnstone, and he, poor fellow, was likewise satisfied with them. I have before me a letter of his about ten days after leaving us:

"67 Costa de Feliciano.
"Dear Sir—I send bearer for my traps, which are all packed up in Dn. Guillermo's room. If I have forgotten anything he will send it to me. This is a beautiful estancia; a large azotea house in a magnificent quinta. I have a very nice room. We have 1200 head of cattle, innumerable mares, horses, and mules; sheep do not thrive here. Dn. Pedro is very kind to me, and the 'capataz' is all you told me, a very good man, and, like all here, a great friend of Dn. Guillermo's, whose example I hope to follow in all things. Give my love to him. All my good fortune I owe to you, my dear Sir, for which I am most thankful. I will trouble you, in one of your visits to Buenos Ayres, to bring me my things that remained at Mr. Hannah's. I will write a line when I have time.—Yours truly,
"H. G. J."

Upon two or three occasions, I saw Don Pedro Carril, who told me he was most pleased with him; that he had increased his salary, and that, when he became a little older and more formal, he would give him a better position; that to please the boy, and give him an insight into all estancia life, he promised him to go with a capataz of great confidence to the Paso de la Patria with a troop of horses, but that in future he would not prevent him to absent himself from the estancia. I impressed upon my friend, Don Pedro, the necessity of his considering himself a second father to the youth, both in consideration of our friendship and the respectability of his family; besides, I had the greatest confidence in the honor and integrity of my young friend, who, I considered, came under my own care. He promised me; and each time I met poor Johnstone he spoke in raptures of Carril, the capataz, and his own prospects.

Upon his return from the camp with the capataz, he spent a night with my son and myself. There was no necessity of his mixing with the peons, further than working amongst them, which we all do when circumstances oblige us, and I observed that the capataz had his horse caught and saddled for him,—a deference well understood amongst us. The melancholy circumstance is an enigma to me. I have some letters from my son, is investigating the matter, and from who, with my commissioner, Mr. Massy, these letters I come to the conclusion that the authorities, finding the mischief done, endeavoured to give it any colour but the true one, to escape the obloquy.

I hope in a few days to return to La Paz, when I will forward you any further particulars, and I wrote to General Urquiza by that post, desiring, not only his interference, but that the culprit shall not be set at liberty.

I would send you more private intelligence, copied from my son's letters, were they not in possession of the Rev. James Smith, to show them to our respected Minister, did occasion require it.

I have the honor to be,
Faithfully yours,
RICHARD GIBBINGS, Sr.

IMPORTANT FROM HIGUERITAS.

Higueritas, Nov. 24, 1867.
The election for Representatives for this Department took place to-day. The affair passed off very quietly. The candidates elected—opposition there was none—are Don Juan Rodriguez, the former owner of the well-known estancia of San Juan, and "Antiguo Jefe Politico" of Montevideo, and Don Fermín Ferrer y Artigas, the talented editor of the *Stiglo*. The Suplentes are Don Constantino Lavalleja, and D. José Maria Medina, both excellent and worthy citizens.

On Sunday next the election for Senator for this district, and for the Junta Economica of the Department, will take place.

The shearing on this side as you are aware, is generally a little later than that of Buenos Ayres. As yet, there have only been two sales made here of the present clip, viz:—

Mr. William Ramsay 400 arr. 25½ rials.

Don Maximino Aguilar 300 arr. 25 rials, equal to \$62½ and \$64 Buenos Ayres money.

The farmers are not contented with the prices offered by buyers; but as it does not appear that they can afford to give more, it is probable that the sales will soon begin to be general for all lots intended to be sold here; because some of the heaviest lots go direct to Montevideo for account of the growers.

VIATOR.

U. S. MARKET REPORT OF RIVER PLATE PRODUCE.

General Remarks on the Wool Market.—There is so little change in our wool market that we can only refer to what we have written for the past few months, as to the state of our market at the present time. The manufacturing business is still so much depressed and prices so unremunerative, that even with the present very low prices of wool, no sales can be made except for immediate consumption. Manufacturers cannot be tempted to purchase beyond their necessities, and very few hold any stock of wool. As the mills are now about changing their machinery to make spring goods, there is a more active demand for fine wools, which are scarce and in short supply; medium and low wools are neglected, and cannot be sold except at a low figure. All prices are still considered very low, and favorable to purchasers. At the wool auction, on the 3d. inst., the attendance was very large, mostly attracted by curiosity to know the state of the woolmarket, and hear the remarks of those in the trade. The prices were low and unsatisfactory to the importer, but quite as much as could be expected in the present state of our market.

Our wool market is an anomaly: with a high duty on wool and goods we would naturally look for high prices on both wool and the manufactured article, but such is not the case. Has the increase of the tariff depressed the trade? The National Association of Wool Manufacturers met in this city on the 2d. inst., and passed a resolution that they would make no attempt to alter the present tariff on wool and woolsens, and the Wool Growers, at a Convention held in Ohio the last of September, passed similar resolutions; we may therefore conclude that there will not be any immediate prospect of a repeal of the enormous duty. If time, which develops all things, don't soon open up something more encouraging, we do not know what will become of manufacturers and wool growers, without mentioning importers of wool and brokers.

Commissioner Well stated at the Woolen Manufacturers Convention, that in his recent visit to Europe, he had collected statistics showing that for the last 18 years the production of clothing wool throughout the world had doubled every 4 years, making in that time the increased supply of the staple sixteen hundred per cent! This statement seems hardly credible, but if true it must mainly have been in those countries where the grass is perennial and hocks require but little attention and we see no reason why the world could not be supplied with cheap wool from such sources, instead of taxing consumers of goods with an exorbitant duty on it, in order to protect its growth where the sheep must be housed and fed at a great expense for nearly half of the year.

DEATH OF SR. HERRERA.

The death of Sr. José Herrera, of Barracas, will long be felt both in native and foreign circles. Deceased was what may be termed a useful man, occupying as he did offices of the most important trust, which he filled with the greatest credit to himself and satisfaction to his fellow-citizens. It will be difficult to fill the void which his death has caused.

During the construction of the Southern Railway, as arbiter in all disputes about the value of land, he won a high reputation for honest disinterestedness to further the real progress of his country. No influence could be brought to bear on his judgment. He smoothed the way for the constructors of the road, and, by his wondrous affability and advice to his countrymen, saved endless litigation. For years he occupied himself in the humble but useful duty of caring the Buen Orden Hill, the Calle Larga, and, in fact, all the roads leading to Barracas and the Boca. No weather was too inclement, no sun too hot, to intimidate this excellent gentleman, or keep him from personally inspecting the roads and pantanos within his jurisdiction.

During the visitation of cholera deceased toiled with an energy to alleviate human sorrow and affliction for which, doubtless, he now reaps his reward. The Convalescencia Buena Ventura owes its present admirable arrangements to the ceaseless exertions of this lamented gentleman. Mr. Herrera may be said to have died in harness. On the day of his demise he had gone over the new road about to be made to the new corrales; he had passed hours in the Government House conferring with Governor Alsina and Dr. Avellaneda as to the paving of the Calle Larga, and, so late as 10 o'clock at night, was occupied with some friends at his house explaining the necessity of the measure. He retired to rest about 11 o'clock, and, as was his custom, took up the newspapers to read in bed. At about half past eleven o'clock he felt a slight pain in his throat, and, putting his hand to his head, tried to remove his spectacles, but it was useless; in an instant life had fled, and this exemplary Argentine had gone to that bourne whence no traveller ere returns.

We cannot allow a man who has played so conspicuous a role in public affairs of the most useful character to descend to the tomb without testifying to his merit, and paying a tribute of respect to his memory. The name of Don Pepe Herrera will long be treasured up as a household word amongst us all. His country shares with his relations in the affliction at his loss, and we foreigners, fellow-toilers in life's troubled sea, place on the grave of this lamented Argentine an immortelle which speaks our estimation for true worth.

Mr. Herrera's funeral yesterday morning was one of the largest in this city for some time. The Recoleta was crowded with some of the most influential men of Buenos Ayres, all anxious to pay the last tribute of respect to so deserved and deeply-lamented a fellow-citizen.—R.L.P.

IMPORTANT FROM CHILE.

The Republic informs us that Don J. D. Tagle has informed the government of his discovery of a new Guano deposit, situated between Caldera and puerto Inglés, and which is two square leagues in extent. Two samples of the guano had been placed in the hands of the Minister, who had remitted them to Sr. Domeyko for analysis; one was taken from the surface of the deposit, and the other from an excavation of about eight feet in depth.

We observe from our Australian advices that works have been established in New South Wales for the purpose of refining Peruvian petroleum. One cargo was due at the time of the departure of the steamer, and the Electra had been despatched for Payta with a cargo of coal, and tanks for the conveyance back of petroleum.

A commission has been appointed for the purpose of exploring and surveying the river Valdivia, together with its affluents, the sea coast near its embouchure, and the port of Corral. The party will leave Valparaiso during the present month, and be under the leadership of Don F. V. Gomez.

HURRICANE AT ST. THOMAS.

A fearful tornado or cyclone passed over the island of St. Thomas on the 29th ult., resulting in a destruction of life and property hardly paralleled in the history of the West India Islands. We gather the following facts from a passenger on the American steamer North American, which arrived at St. Thomas from New York on the day after the catastrophe. The tornado

commenced about 11 a.m., and continued with increasing violence for some 4 or 5 hours, coming from all quarters. So terrible was its destructive power that of 45 vessels lying at anchor in the harbor, all but 5 were either sunk or driven ashore, and many of them completely broken to pieces and destroyed. Among the lost were 4 or 5 sea-going steamers, one of which was the British steamer Columbian. The names of the others we were unable to ascertain. The British packet steamers Tyne and Wye were at a small island 30 miles distant, and are also reported lost, although no positive information to that effect could have been received at St. Thomas up to the time the North America left. It was also rumored that the steamer Robert Tood was lost. The harbour presented a scene of desolation that was truly appalling. The docks were destroyed, a large quantity of coal lost, and the shores were lined with boats and vessels driven a shore and masses of rigging and broken spars. The topmasts of sunken vessels protruded above the surface of the water in the harbour, many of them actually twisted off by the force of the wind. In the town houses had been unroofed, trees unrooted, and gardens completely destroyed; while long bare spots on the mountain side showed the course and fearful violence of the tornado. The Spanish man-of-war steamer Pelayo rode out the hurricane at her anchors, being obliged however to cut away both masts to insure her safety. During a lull in the storm she had manned two of her boats, with each 20 men, and despatched them to aid the other shipping. The gallant fellows however never returned, all having met a watery grave. The French steamer Oiseau de Mer also rode out the gale in safety, but not without having sustained considerable damage. The North America having left New York one day later than her regular sailing day was thus spared the melancholy fate of the rest. Had she left on her appointed schedule time, she would have arrived at St. Thomas and would probably have been coaling at the docks when the tornado commenced. Of the sailing vessels destroyed we could learn only the names of the Charles Sprague (American ship) and the Brigantine Princess Alice, the last named having sought the port in distress, with a cargo of hides from Montevideo, and bound for the United States. The British ship British Empire was dismantled and in a leaking condition, lying right over the sunken steamer Columbian. At the time of the departure of the North America (6 p.m.) they were busily engaged pumping the British Empire, but from appearances it was thought to be impossible to prevent her going down. There had already been recovered 150 to 200 dead bodies from the harbour, all of which had been taken on shore and placed in rude pine coffins. Probably many more were afterwards found. The property destroyed was estimated at from 10 to 15 millions hard dollars. No loss of life occurred on shore that we could learn.

ON CHANGE.

Table with columns for Ounces, Sovereigns, Patacons, National Bonds, and various exchange rates for goods like wool, hides, and skins.

Sheepskins— 2100 doz., from 142 to 205 Tallow— 100 bordelais, fabrica Chacomus, 14 350 ar., at 33 The horse auction at Barraca Foria proved unfavorable, and no sale. Barraca Nacional sold for \$400,100 mpc.; land front, Barraca Foria, could not be sold. In charters nothing done. We heard on 'Change that Mr. Dowse had sold the American steamer Lady Lang to D. Mariano Cabal, in 52,000 pata.

November 28, 1867. National Bonds 62 1/2. Although there were no Bond sales to-day, Bonds were felt to be very firm. One or two buyers, but no sellers. Although the letters were not delivered until after three o'clock, it was generally known that the commercial news was by no means so bad as the telegrams had led people to believe; only one cotton manufacturing firm, at a place called Blackburn, has suspended.

November 29, 1867. National Bonds 62 1/2. There was nothing done in Bonds to-day. No buyers; no sellers. In discounts there is a little more activity. The high rate of interest has brought more lenders into the market, and the Provincial Bank, in view of the possible critical state of the market, accorded to-day that henceforward none but commercial bills should be discounted, but those as liberally as possible. There is a decidedly uneasy feeling in the market, owing to the gloomy apprehension of a European war, and this feeling will not be removed until we receive more favorable advices from Europe.

December 2, 1867. National Bonds 63. There was nothing done in Bonds to-day. The temporary rise in these securities on Saturday, it appears, was mainly owing to the fact that some brokers had sold short for the end of the month. To-day there was no inquiry whatever for Bonds, but as the holders are aware that the vendimientos for the end of December are heavy, and have to be met, they hope to succeed in establishing their price for the end of the year. Money was felt to be a shade easier to-day. The Bank discounted commercial paper to the extent of some two millions, and also discounted in gold.

British barque Harleys, Antwerp, by Green & Co., wool and hides. Italian barque Marina Maggio, Antwerp, by Piaggio, tallow, wool, and hides. Arrivals to-day— French ship Lise Amelia, Cardiff, to Caustall Bros. French barque Ferdinand, Bordeaux, to Pedofina. French barque Nouvel Albatros, Marseille, to order. American steamer Edward Everett, Montevideo. British ship Ocean Traveller, Hamburg, to Casares. Steamer 24 de Mayo, Itapiru. Prussian schooner Iduna, Parnagua, to order. Charters by Woodgate, Brothers: Dutch brig Immanuel, Antwerp, bales, 26s. and 5 per cent. Prussian brig Bankier, Ledsike and Co., to load in Uruguay, for England, salted hides and tallow; lump sum. Charters by H. A. Green and Co.: Dutch barque Alida to load in Uruguay, bales, 32s. 6d. and 5 per cent. for orders. Italian barque Associazio, for Antwerp, current rates. The steamer Poitou will sail on Sunday, and takes a small sum in specie. Most of the wool in the North Plaza sold, very little going into deposit. Mr. J. M. Rosas, produce broker, reports the following: 1600 Entro Riano hidas 40 1/2 rls. 210 ar. hair 38 200 doz. skins 14 70 ar. Merino wool 70 Wool arrivals—South Plaza: Per train, 6,412 ar. Do. carts, 27,676 ar.

November 28, 1867. National Bonds 63. National Bonds showed a decided improvement to-day. The first price paid cash, 53, after which 10,000 thrown on the market realised 52 1/2, closing firm; 19,000 cash, at 53. The market has assumed such an unexpected firmness, that it was generally thought on 'Change that Bonds will go up, particularly as money is beginning to be in great demand, and there is every just reason why they should decline. In Exchange nothing to-day. Gas Shares have taken a sudden look up. There were buyers to-day at 80, and even 85, but no sellers, and holders pretend to establish 100 as the premium. The affairs of this Company are in the most flourishing condition, and it has transpired that the dividend payable in February will be 25 per cent. As for the mooted opposition Company there is nothing said, but even if working to-morrow, it is thought it will in no way interfere with the old Company.

December 2, 1867. National Bonds 63. There was nothing done in Bonds to-day. The temporary rise in these securities on Saturday, it appears, was mainly owing to the fact that some brokers had sold short for the end of the month. To-day there was no inquiry whatever for Bonds, but as the holders are aware that the vendimientos for the end of December are heavy, and have to be met, they hope to succeed in establishing their price for the end of the year. Money was felt to be a shade easier to-day. The Bank discounted commercial paper to the extent of some two millions, and also discounted in gold. The wool market rules the same. Good wools, with abrojo or carrotilla, are selling at a very severe sacrifice; but, one way or another, all wools arriving are sold. Very little going into deposit. In the North Plaza we have the following: 600 ar. mestiza, with carrotilla and bellias, 38 this wool sold last year for 72. 400 ar. mestiza, inferior, 40 400 ar. do. do. 42 1000 ar. do. do. 45 1800 ar. do. Usal, 60 800 ar. do. good, 61 Besides about 35 carts, English, 50 to 68. Our reporter in South Plaza gives: 1200 ar. good, Canuelas, 61 1600 ar. do. do. 60 700 ar. Chacomus, 59 350 ar. do. 58 400 ar. Canuelas, 58 250 ar. do. 60 450 ar. Magdalena, 60 885 ar. Monte, 64 5470 ar. various lots, 61 to 68. Dry hides— 1800 matadero, 42 rls. 500 superior, 126 1000 campo, 120 Sheepskins— 482 doz., from 90 to 200 Tallow, in demand— 450 ar. panzas, 32 Capones— 1740 at Barracas station, with wool, 24 Gas Shares rule in active demand, buyers at 85. One hundred shares borrowed to-day until the end of the month, depositing cash and paying one per cent. interest. For a further loan of 180 shares, as high as 1 1/2 per cent. per month has been offered.

December 3, 1867. This was the first business day on the Bolsa for some time. For the last two or three months the Bond market has been so locked up and depressed, that few ever supposed these securities would so soon be again a subject for speculation; but to-day the Bond market presented a very different attitude, there were buyers on time and for cash at extreme rates. Only one sale effected, 15,000, for December 31st, at 53 1/2; but buyers for large amounts for same period at still higher rates; no sellers. It is beginning to be obvious to all that Bonds for the end of the year have been oversold. It remains to be seen how many will come upon the market as prices rise, but the Bulls profess to hold money at their command to buy up every Bond offered for sale from now till the end of the year. Gas Shares, it would seem, are also oversold. Buyers to-day at 85, no sellers under 100 per cent. premium. The very splendid dividend which this company is about to declare at the end of January is now known on the Bolsa; the old debt due by the Municipality to the company is about to be paid off, and it is well known that never at any previous year were the affairs of this company in so prosperous a condition. In Exchange nothing done as yet. Money rules a shade easier. The Provincial Bank discounting largely. In Montevideo money is beginning to run much tighter, and interest rates are quoted 1 1/2 and 1 3/4 per month. The wool market to-day shows no alteration. Badly got up mestiza wools have to be sold at a heavy sacrifice. Good wools clean, sell readily at 75 and even 80, but it is only the very best Magdalena wools can obtain those prices. The sales to-day in the North Plaza are about the average. Some 10,000 ar. sold at from 38 to 57. The wools from estancias of Casalius and Calderon, from Chacomus, sold at reserved prices. Our South Market reporter give the following: 1200 ar. Magdalena, fine 68 2400 ar. do. do. 80 2500 ar. do. do. 75 1200 ar. Chacomus, fine 68 500 ar. dark color 42 1250 ar. Enseneda, fine 60 900 ar. mixed, dirty 43 1200 ar. Las Flores 62 1000 ar. Canuelas, 67 800 ar. San Vicente 67 700 ar. mixed, inferior 35 800 ar. do. do. 43 900 ar. fine and clean 62 10,750 ar. various lots 40 to 60 Dry hides— 2500, from 115 to 127 Sheepskins— 1800 dozen, at 16 rls. 700 do. 11 rls. 285 do. 176 350 do. 70 215 do. good 118 1000 do. from 85 to 125 Hair— 140 ar. Indio 107 90 ar. good 134 60 ar. do. cow 110 100 ar. con marlo 65 Tallow— 80 bor. Chacomus, reserved. 15 65 bor. Barracas 13 272 ar. 32 Maize— 85 fan., superior 148 Lambs— 100 lambs for market, 21 each. Flour rules firm; an American cargo, 2,000 barrels, to Zimmermann, Fair, & Co., Montevideo, has arrived. Charters by C. W. Benn and Co.— Dutch brig Deni, to load for Antwerp, bales, 26s. and 5 per cent. Dutch brig Margarita, to load for Antwerp, 26s. and 5 per cent. Dutch brig Gooregt, to load for Rio Negro and back, 5 rls. Dutch brig Mary, to load for Antwerp, bales, 26s. and 5 per cent. Hanoverian brig Berbe, to load for Antwerp, 26s. and 5 per cent. British brig Favorite to load for Antwerp, bales, 26s. and 5 per cent.— Charters by H. A. Green and Co.— Italian brig Venezia Libra, and British brig William Gordon, to load bales for Antwerp, 26s. Charters by J. P. Boyd and Co.— British brig Mary, to load salted hides and tallow, for orders, Uruguay, 40s. and 5 per cent. Bremen brig Falmo, on berth for Antwerp, to load in the inner roads, current rates. Cleared to-day— French barque, Jean Andre, Marseille, by Lennuyeur, wool and hides. British barque, Hamilton, Antwerp, by Woodgate, Brothers, tallow and hides. British barque, Excelsior, Antwerp, Woodgate, Brothers, dry hides and wool. Arrivals in port to-day— Steamer Cisne, Corrientes. Steamer Rio Parana, Montevideo. Italian schooner Giuseppe Maria, Barcelona, to Rodrigo Bros. American barque Herculia Moore, Chile, to Ebris. British barque Pollicito, Liverpool, to Gas Company. Cerro, Itapiru, towing two vessels.

December 3, 1867. Birth. On the 24th November, the wife of Thomas Taylor, Esq., Estancia de los Allos, Gualeguayché, of a daughter. Death. On the 19th November, off Maldonado, Michael Flanagan, aged 27 years, native of Waterford, Ireland. Deceased was boatman of the steamer Uruguay, and fell overboard whilst getting the anchor ready. Notwithstanding the most immediate efforts to save him he perished, to the regret of the Captain and all who knew him. On the 21st of November, at Itapiru, John Henderson, a discharged stevedore from St. Susan Biernie; native of Glasgow. On the 28th of November, at Itapiru, Robert Foster, fireman belonging to St. Adale; native of London. On the 26th of November, at Itapiru, Henry Batsan, chief engineer of St. Santa Fé; native of Cornwall. On the 27th of November, at Estancia Rincon Angosta, Department of Paysandú, Mr. Daniel Cash, aged 55 years. Deceased was a native of Liverpool, and for many years estanciaero in the Banda Oriental. On the 30th of November, of apoplexy, Sr. Don José Herrera, aged 66 years. On the 16th of October, at Knotty Ash, near Liverpool, Mary Catherine, aged 21 years, eldest daughter of Henry Fortescue Whittle, of Montevideo.

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