

THE WEEKLY STANDARD

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BUENOS AYRES, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1867.

CIRCULATION 2,500

THE STATE OF THE CITY.

Saturday and Sunday were eventful days in the history of Buenos Ayres. Nothing that we experienced in the yellow fever panic some years ago; nothing that occurred in the very worst epoch last April, approached in magnitude or intensity the rush from this abandoned town during the days above named. A friend from an estancia near Moreno reports the little estancia house so crowded that every room is converted into a bedroom, every rancho and outhouse is an *impromptu* dormitory. At Mercedes, Lujan, and Chivilcoy the affrighted citizens of Buenos Ayres were proud to obtain a night's lodging on the top of a counter or on the bosom of a billiard-table. The rush to those districts was so intense that the quintas are all converted into lodging-houses; the ranchos, mud hovels, with hardly the semblance of a thatch, are rented by men accustomed to the perfumed chambers of the Progreso. In fact, the people at present in town seem to know nothing of what is going on outside. Even in the Calle Larga, a small six-roomed house, which has been shut all the winter, was besieged on Saturday night, and on Sunday boasted of no less than forty-five occupants. The poorer class of suffering fleeing humanity have squatted along the Quilmes, San Vicente, and Lomas roads: no hovel is too delapidated, no mud rancho too humble for the unfortunate citizens of Buenos Ayres; and, as if Divine Providence, resolute to show the people that its laws can never be violated without retribution, hundreds are this day compelled to seek shelter in bullock carts and temporary sheds in the open Camp.

So melancholy a picture of the woes and sorrows of the people of Buenos Ayres is not without its moral. With all our shining talents, advanced civilization, profound erudition, and transcendent political views, we know not how to live—as individuals we may consult our private welfare and convenience; but in a social point of view the people of Buenos Ayres are destitute of the slightest knowledge of those arts which tend to comfort and salubrity. That every city on the face of the globe is open to epidemic attacks there cannot be a question, but Buenos Ayres was built in a healthy manner. One hundred people occupy more space in their domiciles in this city than in any other city of an equal population or importance that we know of. Take any square or block in this city, we care not if the most populous and thronged in the town, and we unhesitatingly say that it will be found that the number of residents, occupants, or tenants, bears no proportion with the square yards of ground which they occupy, when compared with other cities. A house (according to the ordinary run of houses in this city) which accommodates a family of say twelve persons, stretches over a superficies which in Dublin, New York, Paris, London, or Liverpool would afford domicile for at least fifty. Buenos Ayres stretches out, and though barely with a population of 223,000 souls, stands upon more ground than other cities whose inhabitants sum up to nearly a million. We deduce from this fact that the city, *per se*, is healthily built, and with but the rudest care could dispense with even a hospital.

The city, however, has only one defect, which goes to bear us out in our thesis, that although individually Argentinians can take care of themselves, collectively they are blind to every social comfort: the houses are large, airy, and roomy, with yards or patios, but the streets, on the other hand, are small and narrow. To tear down whole blocks and widen the streets, is a task which posterity must be allowed to undertake, since it is hopeless to expect that in the present generation anything of the kind will be attempted, but since Governor Alsina is about to abolish the wretched Municipality, we make the following suggestion: the streets are too narrow for three-story houses, and although we cannot well prohibit a man from building houses as high as Lezama's nonsensical watch-tower, still the safety of the city demands some precaution; therefore a law should be passed, compelling every man who builds more than a one-story house to give to the side-

walk a yard for every additional story. The streets of Buenos Ayres are common property, and therefore horribly neglected. In the length and breadth of the whole city there is not a scavenger to be found. Once a week the occupants of houses are ordered to sweep half the street before their doors. But even supposing that this edict were carried out properly, what does it amount to? Simply a sort of weekly street cat-licking: *the streets of Buenos Ayres are never properly cleansed except by a storm.*

Now, let any man on a hot summer's morning walk at an early hour through any, even the very best, streets in town, and what horrid filth, out even in the very middle of the street, will he not see. We cannot offend our readers by publishing the naked truth, but in Calles Reconquista, San Martin, Defensa, Bolivar, Peru, and even Florida, better even the dead horses, which we meet with outside, than the human filth which at that early hour offends the eye. This filth lies in the street, becomes impregnated with the dust, and once a week is removed. Could Constantinople beat this? And yet people wonder that we have pests in this city. Even at this moment the sewer from the hospital in the Calle San Juan is stopped since the storm, and the streets along the railway covered with every description of horrid filth.

So far back as last February a body of city capitalists offered to supply the town with water. Of course, the rascally municipality opposed it, and even accused us before the court for speaking the truth. Had that company been formed, the waters from the River Lujan would have been carried into this city, and possibly even now—instead of a sickly band of music playing in the evening in the plaza—we should have refreshing jets d'eau playing at every square, pipes turned at every street corner, washing night and morning these filthy thoroughfares. But all this has proved a dream; and now the awful truth stares us all in the face—**THAT WATER IS AS ESSENTIAL FOR THE CITY AS AIR**, and that until we have sewers to carry off the filth, and water pipes to wash down every street, epidemic diseases, in one shape or other, will hold sway in this terribly neglected town.

When last, in Montevideo, one of the Comision de Higiene favored us with an insight into the books, and showed us how they managed. Every block or square in the city has its inspector; every house, yard, or building is entered in its proper district; the state of the building, the patios, water closets, algibes, even to the kitchens, is reported on once a week; even the number of occupants in each house, and the trade, profession, or calling of each is entered there, the state of whitewash, &c. Now, in God's name, we ask why is not the same thing done here? why are there not paid scavengers for every block in town? and, until we get a water supply, the streets swept clean twice a day. Has not the grave closed over sufficient victims already, or shall we for ever go on in the same melancholy ways of filthy putrifying neglect? Awake, Governor Alsina, and stamp the d—d municipality out of the city; let us get rid of this humbug of humbugs, and let the accursed municipal name be obliterated from our vocabulary.

Begin by removing the dead horses and dogs which infest the city (there are two dead horses at present rotting at the foot of Calle Bolivar Hill, behind Waterloo Quinta).

Give Mr. Landois his privilege to lay whatever pipes he thinks proper.

Name an officer, whose duty it must be to have scavengers daily cleansing our streets; pay the officer and his subordinates high salaries, and in front of the Cabildo hang him and them if they neglect their duty.

Remove the corrals to their proper sites; send the saladeros to Ensenada, and buy up all their establishments at the Riachuelo and convert them into a people's park.

Place inspectors at every meat and vegetable markets, and send the butcher to Paraguay who sells tired beef, or the costermonger who retails green fruit or stale vegetables.

Knock down the old Recoleta and give the Plaza Victoria a healthy look and a breath of fresh air.

Compel every watering-cart man to take from the river five hundred yards above the Gas-house.

Shut up the Recoleta, hermetically consigning every coffin in it to the mother earth, and give the city of Buenos Ayres three public cemeteries instead of one.

Open lime deposits and supply all the poorer class with what Dr. Harris of New York calls the true conqueror of cholera.

Do this—and do it at once—Governor Alsina, and you will prove a blessing to your unfortunate country, and the Augustus of the Plate.

DOWN WITH THE MUNICIPALITY.

By a felicitous accident, every paper in Buenos Ayres yesterday published an attack, more or less severe, on the horrid municipality of this doomed city. Our remarks found such a grateful echo in every circle that we feel determined to hammer at that horrid board until its existence will be a thing of the past.

The grave has closed over some scores of fresh municipal victims since our last article, and the funerals are passing through every street in town whilst we write, yet the municipality building is still standing; the chairs and tables of that impure corporation have not been flung into the street by an indignant and affrighted mob; and we hope will not, as we are opposed to such violence even when the criminal neglect of the board affords every justification for such an act; but a torchlight meeting ought to be held, and if the municipal cholera frightens the people, let the public indignation frighten Don J. B. Peña & Co. Something must be done, and that at once. Yesterday every road leading from the town was crowded with horse carts, bullock-carts, dog carts and coaches, laden with the furniture and luggage of hundreds fleeing the town. On the Quilmes road the humblest mud rancho has its city tenant. The hegira of last April has commenced again. The railways are crowded, the steamboats cannot carry all the passengers, and all this misery, affliction, and woe because the rascally municipality has its heel on the city.

The sins of the Municipality are of omission and commission. Everything they have touched they have spoiled, ruined and bungled. There is a great cry out now for the municipality to authorise Sr. Landois' water scheme, but we do not join in it. We ask for no compromise; we seek no arrangement; we listen to no promise, *but in the name and on behalf of Two Hundred and twenty thousand human beings we demand of Governor Alsina the utter and absolute extinction of the board.*

Has Governor Alsina the decision of character requisite?—has the Ruler of Buenos Ayres the moral pluck to ostracise an institution which, gloating in filth and putrefaction, sits like an incubus on this city?

Look around you, Adolfo Alsina, and see the city of your birth, your aspirations, and your ambition steeped in the dregs of the deepest of all woes: a churchyard gloom spread over every street, trade and commerce at a stand-still, and the only thriving business that of the undertaker or the gravedigger!

Alas! shall it be said that the Governor of Buenos Ayres is impotent in an hour so awful?

We put the matter to his Excellency as a man, as a fellow-citizen; and implore of him to drag from the depths of municipal corruption the suffocated interests of his unfortunate country!

Down with the Municipality!—for it is a disgrace to Buenos Ayres.

Down with the Municipality!—its influence is more poisonous than the cholera.

Down with the Municipality!—its extinction would revivify the dejected citizens.

Down—doubly down—with that hated Board of Humbugs, which has at last succeeded in converting the most healthy city in South America into an emporium of filth, corruption, and infection!

The extinction of the Municipality will be the resurrection of B. Ayres.

SPLENDID TESTIMONIAL.

Yesterday we had the high honor to receive from a subscriber a costly and magnificent testimonial, in the shape of a mother of pearl cigar case, cased in silver; also a mother of pearl match-box, adorned in the same chaste style. This splendid testimonial is rendered the more valuable, since it comes from a distinguished member of the Argentine bar, who, although differing with us on many subjects, wishes to testify his high appreciation of our honest exertions to rid the city of abuses, and to promote the material and moral interests of the River Plate. Toilsome and fatiguing as is the life of an editor, and surrounded as we are with troubles and cares, unknown to other careers, still there are moments when spontaneous approbation, as in the present instance, more than repays all our toils, and we have but to observe, that the only ally to our feelings this moment is, that so splendid a tribute should be paid to services so humble.

REVIEW FOR EUROPE.

The state of the Argentine Republic on the departure of the French mail presents far less ground for apprehension than at the leaving of the Arno. The rebel forces of the interior, although neither captured nor annihilated, have fairly melted away, and their leader, abandoning the cause of anarchy and disorder, has crossed the mountains and taken refuge in Bolivia. The fear of a Chilean invasion, about which we had such alarming rumours, has happily subsided. We have apparently nothing to dread from that quarter, and the Argentine Republic may be fairly said to be progressing in spite of itself. In the province of Rioja we have to deplore another revolution, but there is no substantial proof to connect the National Government with this disgraceful motin, although the province of Entre Rios has sent to the Vice-President a protest which is couched in language of open rebellion. The reply of Dr. Rawson, Minister of the Interior, is dignified and firm. It disowns all connivance with this rather disgraceful civil commotion. Thus the pretext which some of the provinces evidently sigh for in order to justify a disturbance is removed. The Vice-President has published a proclamation respecting the action of the Government in the coming Presidential elections, and disavowing all support or leaning towards any of the numerous candidates, and extending to the citizens in the interior a wholesome advice as to the freedom of voters, but in Buenos Ayres it is very generally believed that our excellent Vice-President, consulting the best interests of the nation, and solely with a desire to bind Buenos Ayres more firmly to the provinces, sides and supports Dr. Adolfo Alsina, Governor of Buenos Ayres, who is admitted to be the only man with sufficient interest and influence to retain the capital in Buenos Ayres, and thus save the country from the possibility of future civil strife. Governor Alsina, as ruler of the chief and first province in this Republic, has, during his short administration, given the very best proof of his earnest desire to further the real interests of his country. He struggles against the antiquated abuses which afflict this province with an honesty of purpose and a decision of character, which have gained for him the sympathy and support of the foreigners in the Plate.

The last advices from headquarters are of a most unsatisfactory nature. The attempt to shut the Paraguayan ruler in Humaita has resulted in nothing, inasmuch as Lopez holds full dominion in the Gran Obaco, and maintains open communications with Asuncion, the capital of Paraguay. The hopes which we all entertained of a speedy termination of the war have been dispelled, and even the most experienced can put no limit to a war which, on the one hand, is maintained by debility and procrastination, and, on the other hand, resisted by indomitable bravery and fanatical determination. Caxias has done much towards forcing the campaign to a conclusion, and occupies positions of the most strategic importance, but he lacks energy and men to turn these advantages to account, and it is impossible

to say when the objects of the triple alliance will be fully accomplished.

The last raid of the allied troops into the interior of Paraguay has afforded the fullest proof that the enemy's country abounds with supplies, and that the continued stories of Paraguayan deserters, as to the starvation and misery existing in the Paraguayan camp, have been destitute of the slightest authenticity, and mere inventions.

Preparations on a most gigantic scale are going on for a powerful expedition which is about to be despatched to seize Asuncion, destroy the arsenal, upset the Government, and name a Provisional one instead. Much depends on the success of this expedition as to the future of the campaign. It is greatly feared that when it crosses the Tebicuari, a wide and rapid river, the enemy will intercept the communication, and attempt to cut off the division from the main body.

The constant supplies requisite for army purposes gives a great activity to many branches of our city trade. In all other departments of commerce business is dull, and English and French cotton goods are selling in most instances at a loss. The market is seriously overstocked; the bonded warehouses in the city are found insufficient to accommodate the heavy importations going on.

Exchange rules low. Gold has become scarce, and wool, although unprecedentedly cheap, cannot be bought at a figure which makes it a desirable remittance. Thus we have the trade of this place in almost every respect overdone.

The River Plate Bank, as also the Mauá Bank, have drawn largely for this packet at 48½, but the market-rate has been 48½, and, at the close of the Exchange transactions for the packet, the best bills have been passed at 48½, and in one instance something was done at 49.

The National Government has yielded to the constant appeals of the Press on the subject of exorbitant taxation, and reduced the valuation placed on import and export articles. This timely measure has in some respects much benefited trade.

The Great Southern Railway is doing a splendid business, bringing in almost daily from 12,000 ar. to 15,000 ar. of mestiza wool. The goods and passenger traffic this year is so considerably in excess of that of last that there can be no doubt whatever this prosperous road will soon yield 7 per cent. net to the shareholders.

The Northern Railway, under the able management of Mr. Mertimer, is also doing an excellent traffic business, and, as the suburbs along the line are each day becoming more populous, the passenger traffic of the road shows a steady increase.

Money rules in better demand, and the rates of discount average from 10 to 12 per cent. per annum. The excellence of the Exchange-office, which has secured a fixed value for our paper-money, is each day better appreciated; still exchange rules so low, and so much gold is exported, that many feel nervous as to the general state of the River Plate market.

National Bonds are firm and rising; they at present command the very high price of \$55, but this rate is purely speculative, the Bonds having been bought up by one or two wealthy capitalists.

Sheep rule extremely low, and may be bought in small flocks at about 3s. each, and in large ones at 2s. 6d. Land also shows signs of depression, and, as a general rule, the rural interests in the Plate are languishing. More attention is now paid to cattle than to sheep, owing to the high price paid for fat cattle, and the steady demand for hides and tallow.

Gas Shares rule from 85 to 90 per cent. premium. This prosperous company will pay in the end of January a handsome dividend of from 20 to 25 per cent.

Exchange on England, 48½ to 49.
" " France, 5.12 to 5.15.
" " Antwerp, 5.12 to 5.20.
" " Rio, 40, nominal.

THE STORM.

The weather for the last few weeks has been of a heavy, unhealthy nature, sickness on the increase, and the health of the city of a character to create alarm: streets filthy, tenement houses overcrowded, and, to crown all, a most horrid, nauseous atmosphere, caused by the millions of dead fish, lying high and dry, on the river's bank. Divine Providence seems to have pitied us, and on Wednesday night another storm, fully equal to that memorable dust storm on the 19th March 1866, visited this neglected town. The hurricane, while it lasted, was so terrific, that people in two story houses were seriously affrighted. The gale was a thorough, unmistakable 'pampero.' It commenced about 45 minutes past 8 o'clock p.m., and with greater or less intensity lasted until midnight. The rain commenced a little after ten, and came down in torrents. Happily the storm caused very slight damage in port; a few lighters went to the bottom, but the packet, about which the greatest apprehensions were entertained, arrived true to time, although our brother editor, who came up in her, states that it was an awful night on board.

Our special reporters have sent in their returns of the damage done, but it is trifling, when weighed with the immense good, in a hygienic point of view, which such a splendid tornado must have worked. All the paper dollars in the bank, all the gold in the River Plate would not pay for the first half hour's blow, which, sweeping from the steppes of the Andes, burst over this most neglected and unfortunate of cities. Had it blown down half the city, we could have afforded it, provided it blew the cholera and the Municipality from our shores.

In the neighborhood of Barracas the storm caused much damage. The beautiful trees, fronting the quinta of Don Juan Antonio Fernandez, although not torn from their roots, testify to the severity of the gale by their dishevelled branches. Orange grove in front, temporarily shut up, owing to the absence of the tenant, also suffered in the shrubbery department. The mulberry trees, which afforded a grateful shade over the hospitable threshold of Mr. Richard Simons, were blown down. At Elizalde pavilion the storm also played havoc with the choice exotics. In the Atkin's quinta four aged monarchs of the lovely garden were torn up by the roots, and 7,000 pears brought to an untimely end. Standard Hall defied the elements; the gale burst into the dining-room, while discussing the merits of Mr. Boyd's crown port, but in an instant the doors and windows were closed, and the Editor, secure in his retreat, smiled at the forked lightning, and defied its point; but a painful anxiety for the supplements on board the Arno, evoked a silent prayer for the safety of the packet in an hour so rude.

Perry Castle and Waterloo Quinta withstood the shock of the elements. Along the Moreno slopes, however, the trees suffered, and 'Zimmermann on solitude' might be read to advantage in the umbrageous avenues of Mr. Gonzalez Moreno's garden on the following morning. Mr. Cooper, of Cooper Hill, deprecates the loss of a cherished vine. At Anderson Park a few of the trees lost their branches, and the whole side of Lezama's mansion has changed color, owing to the washing it got.

In the Boca the storm also caused much damage, and along the Riachuelo the weeping willows wept even into the stygian flood beneath.

The Yellow House has battled the gale, with a loss of 10 yards of wall and some trees.

In the southern parts of the city several zinc roofs have been blown away. A new house, at the corner of Independencia, was blown down, just as Mr. G. Wilks was fleeing for safety and for succor. At Mrs. Admiral Brown's house the windows were smashed, and the dust got in. A 'tropero' from Quilmes states that numerous ranchos have been blown down and trees torn up.

At the South Plaza some bullock-carts were blown clean over, and the gale caught one of the railway tramway cars whilst running, but no accident occurred, although the passengers roared to be let out.

Along the Western Railway the storm was also felt. Rose-hill lost, in the first half hour, a moiety of its fruit. Many of the sweetest places about Flores were injured by the gale, but our special reporter from Belgrano gives the most sorrowing of all tales.

The streets, so happy and cheerful

with shady trees on either side, have now a new appearance, owing to the leafless trunks which stud the way.

Watson's renowned hotel was thronged all night with visitors, who came to dine, but remained to sleep. There were great fears entertained for the ranchos in the garden, but they withstood the shock.

Dr. Mariano Varela's villa suffered from the boisterous winds: the children's swing swung was blown over the roof, and some of the choice shrubs transplanted from the Buschental Gardens, Montevideo, were blown around the summer-house.

Hawk Cottage suffered, owing to the windows having been carelessly left open.

Dry Goods House is not blown down, as at first rumored. The owner was absent at the moment.

The F. A. M. Cottage was nearly tumbled. One of the proprietors in the city writing for the packet heard nought of the peril until the following morning.

Best house, Brown Lodge, Sempie Park, Aldecoa Ville, have more or less suffered. Hayloft Hall came off best. Charter house, the residence of one of our leading ship-brokers, survived the storms, but in the neighborhood of the Old Bailey, there was ruin and desolation. It appears however, to have rained much more in the city than in the suburbs. Mr. Drabble's splendid mansion at Socorro, suffered less than the garden, where the peach and other fruit trees were sadly injured, even to the tessellated patio mosaic dust destroyed its color.

During the continuance of the storm people who happened to be out at the time had to take refuge in the first house they met. Apothecary's Hall, Calle Rivadavia, was thronged. Mr. Lewis was obliged to walk into a Spanish family in Calle San Martin. Mr. Saunders, who was driving in from Palermo, had to stop on the road, and did not reach town until midnight, whilst a christening party in Calle Defensa was brought to a wind-up owing to all parties being obliged to run home to shut the windows. What damage the gale may have done in the camp we have yet to learn, but all agree that it rivalled the great dust storm of 1866.

THE ARNO'S MAILS.

The R.M.S. Arno arrived here this morning at 6 o'clock. She left Rio at 8 a.m. on the 6th, arrived at Montevideo at 2 p.m. on the 10th, and landed 83 passengers and 137 packages of cargo. The Arno brings for this port 93 packages of cargo and the following passengers, viz:—

Messrs. F. Corriello, A. E. H. Abraham, L. A. Lestage, J. L. d'Almeida, M. Fresno, Dr. Domingo Cobas, Mr. and Mrs. McClymont, Mr. and Mrs. Williamson, Mr. and Mrs. Russell and servant; Mr. McCramer, Mr. M. Dogherty, Mr. Mariou, Mr. William White, Mr. A. Bell, Mrs. Ellis, Mr. Duchuritz, Mr. A. Marschall, 2 servants, and infant; Mr. Navarette and brother; H.E. Sr. Varela and servant; Mr. P. T. y Sabatez. Mr. F. Quiart, Mr. A. Rance, Mr. Rice, brother and sister; Mr. C. Mardenburgh, Mr. L. Orme, Mrs. Maker and child; Mr. José Cervantes, Mr. José B. Dominguez, Mr. J. B. Vasquez, Mr. J. M. Castenha, Mr. A. D. y Castro, Mr. F. y Corroa, Mr. C. F. Vasquez, Mr. J. M. Prada, Mr. F. Sarrabeto, Mr. J. M. Guericavetras, Mr. J. M. A. Badiola, Mr. M. Esteves and brother. Total—53 passengers.

The Arno will leave Buenos Ayres on the 23d, and Montevideo at 5 a.m. on the 25th inst., with the homeward mails. In future the said ship will carry specie to England at 3 per cent., and further particulars can be obtained by applying at the Company's agencies.

Mr. Jacob Bright has accepted the invitation of the Liberal party of Manchester to offer himself as a candidate for the representation of that city. He will not issue his address until after the funeral of Mr. James. There is at present no Tory Candidate actually in the field.

It is reported that a baronetcy will shortly be conferred on Mr. Titus Salt, whose eminence as a manufacturer has long been rivalled by his munificence as a philanthropist.

The French Government still keeps silence in reference to the part the troops of France took in the battle of Montauo. Their silence, however, deceives no one. Although no full or official details are at hand, there is no doubt that at least five French battalions under the command of General Polhes, took part in the engagement. The fact will tend to still further embitter the relations between Italy and France. There is an article in the

Patrie of last evening, which, if it has any authoritative signification, means that the French troops are to be used to repress the expression of popular feeling in Italy. The *Patrie* tells us that Italy has only to appease the public mind, and that France and Italy will continue agreed in order to accomplish this task. The French troops will therefore remain at Civita Vecchia till every trace of the late disturbance is effaced. It seems likely that this 'process' of pacification will be a long one. Although efforts are made to convey the impression that no great agitation exists in Italy, it is impossible wholly to disguise the truth, and that truth is, that public feeling is greatly moved. It may be that the Italian Government will find itself unable to cope with the popular indignation. Does the *Patrie* mean that in such a case French troops are to interfere for Victor Emmanuel as they have for the Pope?

The *Presse* tells us that the speech of the Emperor on the opening of the French Chambers will be very reticent as to the foreign relations of France, except to the Roman question. His Majesty will, however, deal largely with subjects of domestic interest. It is also stated that a new loan for internal improvements will be announced.

The Emperor Francis Joseph arrived in Vienna yesterday afternoon. He was received with every token of welcome. All the public bodies turned out to meet him, and the Burgomaster delivered an address, the purport of which was that the Emperor's speech in Paris had been read with delight in Vienna, chiefly because it promised a policy of peace. The Emperor replied, declaring that he would do all he could to bring Austria back to her former position by cultivating unity at home and peace with all foreign countries.

If the Vienna papers may be believed, Turkey has sent a very plucky reply to the note of Russia, Prussia, France, and Italy. The Porte says it is quite prepared to assume the responsibility of its own acts, and desires nothing more than that the Powers should refrain in future from every kind of interference in the Candian question.

The following details of the defeat of Garibaldi have been received:—

Garibaldi moved from Monte Rotondo on the 3rd to take Tivoli, which had been reoccupied by the Pontifical troops. A little beyond Montana he came suddenly upon the whole Pontifical force, which immediately opened a heavy artillery fire. A battle ensued, which lasted for three-quarters of an hour.

Garibaldi, after a heavy loss, retreated to Monte Rotondo, followed by the Pontifical troops, when the battle was renewed, and after two hours and a half desperate fighting the Garibaldians were completely dispersed.

Garibaldi and his staff fled towards the Italian frontier.

The greatest bravery was displayed on both sides, and the Pontifical Zouaves repeatedly charged with the bayonet.

The Garibaldians lost 450 killed and 900 prisoners. The number of their wounded has not been accurately ascertained.

The Pontificals had 200 killed and wounded. The Garibaldian force consisted of 3,500 men, 2 guns, and 35 horses.

Menotti Garibaldi was slightly wounded in the leg.

On Saturday a deputation, including Deputies Corte, Crispi, and Sineo, waited upon Garibaldi, and vainly endeavoured to induce him to desist from his enterprise.

The result of Garibaldi's short campaign in the Papal States, if it has disappointed many hopes, has cleared away some illusions. In the face of recent events, it is scarcely possible to maintain either that the Roman people are resolved, at any cost, to get rid of the Pope, or that the Italian people are resolved, at any cost, to gain possession of Rome. When the French troops quitted Civita Vecchia a twelve month ago many persons imagined that a few weeks or even days would see the end of the Temporal Power. The Romans had been represented as only waiting for their departure to rise as one man against priestly government. Months passed, but no insurrection took place in Rome or the Papal States, and a few thousand foreign Volunteers proved sufficient to keep order among a population of more than half a million. Still, the friends of Italy were confident that at the first signal from the leaders of the revolution the Pope's subjects would raise the standard of rebellion, and proclaim a Republic or vote for annexation to the kingdom of

Italy, as Mazzini and Garibaldi might dictate. At last the signal was given, bands of Garibaldians poured into the Papal territories, Garibaldi himself, breaking the cordon drawn round Caprera, advanced within sight of Rome, and the little Papal army, worn out by constant marching, was in no condition to suppress a general 'eméute' in the capital; but the moment was lost, a few isolated outbreaks were easily quelled, and the only barricades raised in Rome were raised by the Pontifical troops against the expected attack of Garibaldi. It may be said, indeed, that Garibaldi was ultimately defeated by the arms of France, and it appears by the last accounts that General Polhes' brigade, if it did not take an active part in the encounter at Montana, reach the field when the fortune of the day was still undecided, and turned the tide against the Garibaldians. At all events, the presence of French soldiers at Rome enabled the Pope to employ his whole army against the enemy without, but there was ample time for a decisive movement before the French squadron sailed from Toulon, and had it succeeded, that squadron might never have weighed anchor at all. Judging by all that has occurred, we are inclined to believe that, even without French aid, the Pontifical forces would have succeeded in repelling Garibaldi, supposing him to have received no support from the Government at Florence. If this be so, it is vain to speak of the invasion as a supreme effort of the Italian nation to complete the unity of Italy. A great nation rising 'en masse,' like the Germans in 1813, not held at bay by 10,000 or 100,000 foreigners, and no amount of 'plebiscite' inviting the Italian Government to occupy the Roman States can disguise the backwardness of the people to work out their own salvation. As a demonstration of national enthusiasm this enterprise has been a failure, and it is but fair to remember that it was undertaken and continued by Garibaldi contrary to the earnest advice of his own political associates.

Marshal O'Donnell is dead. The history of his life since 1835 or 1836 is almost the history of Spain. He has been concerned in more than one of the changes of Government. In 1840, after the Carlist war was over, he declared himself on the side of the Queen Mother, and went into exile with her in France. Espartero took up the Government, and in 1841 yielded to O'Donnell's request for permission to return to Spain. That permission was Espartero's ruin. O'Donnell got up an insurrection, and Espartero was driven from power. Since then, O'Donnell has been Governor-General of Cuba for some time, and has filled various Ministerial offices at home. In 1859 he commanded the Spanish expedition against Morocco, and for his services there was made Duke of Tetuan. In 1863 he resigned office, and has been since then under a cloud. He was a man of great ability, much firmness, and unrelenting in his treatment of his opponents. He is reported to have said that there are various ways of getting and retaining office, but that the best was to shoot all your opponents. There is no doubt he acted upon a principle very much akin to this. After his successes against Espartero, he shot numbers of the defeated party without mercy. It has been well said, contrasting Espartero and O'Donnell, that the former was perfectly honest, but had no ability, while the latter was full of ability, but had no honesty.

THE BATTLE OF MENTANA.

DEFEAT OF GARIBALDI.

Florence, Nov. 5.

On the 3rd of November, at half past twelve noon, the body of volunteers which occupied Monte Rotondo was put in motion by the Mentana road in the direction of Tivoli, where all the other corps occupying the Pontifical territory were directed to concentrate. General Garibaldi had provided for the possibility of encountering the enemy on the march, and had directed, in an order of the day, all the arrangements suggested by military art to guard against an unexpected attack. The advanced guard was composed of the 1st battalion of Bersaglieri, which was ordered to throw out strong flanking parties on our right, which was the side exposed to the enemy. We were in all about 5,000 men, with the two pieces of artillery taken at Monte Rotondo. The advanced guard had passed Mentana (this seems about two miles from Monte Rotondo) when word was passed back that the Pontifical troops had already attacked the head of the column at the extreme point of the advanced guard. On seeing the

enemy, the General made the following dispositions:

The 2nd battalion of volunteers and the 2nd and 3rd Bersaglieri, together with the Carabiniers of Leghorn, were extended along the heights which rise about half a mile from Mentana, and were received with a sharp fire of foreign Chasseurs and Zouaves.

But the arms in front of Mentana not being found suitable for defence, and a movement in force towards the left being developed by the enemy with the evident intention of cutting off our line of retreat, our line was withdrawn into Mentana, occupying the houses and the castle, while the rest of the Garibaldian troops were ebelted on the left and behind the village. Then two columns of Chasseurs and Zouaves attacked in front and on the left, as had been foreseen, and succeeded for a few minutes in penetrating as far as the first houses. The position was critical. Mentana and the retreat were threatened. General Garibaldi ordered the whole line to charge with the bayonet; it was brilliantly executed, and Mentana was recovered. The general himself directed from a height the fire of our guns. The day seemed won, and the enemy was at every instant losing ground when a new and dense hostile line appeared on the field. They were the fresh battalions of the Antibes legion, who, reinforcing the wavering battalions of the first line, attacked our left with new vigour. Their arms of precision and artillery caused heavy loss to our men, who disputed the ground foot by foot. But victory seemed hopeless. We were crushed with numbers, and paralysed by the want of ammunition for our guns, which had exhausted their seventy rounds. It was necessary to save the line of retreat, and to hold the enemy in check, preventing him from descending on the road that leads from Mentana to Monte Rotondo. This object was successfully attained, and the retreat on Monte Rotondo was effected.

Gen. Garibaldi concentrated there all his disposable forces for the defence of the position and the castle. The enemy approached within gunshot of the village, but did not advance nor attack. Towards five o'clock he drew up his forces on the heights fronting Monte Rotondo, and left the whole evening and night at our disposal. Gen. Garibaldi might have employed this time in reorganizing and opposing an extreme resistance in the elevated position of Monte Rotondo. But after the French and Italian intervention, the political situation preponderated over the military, and further bloodshed became useless. Gen. Garibaldi perceived it, and ordered a retreat on Passo Corese. It was executed in the course of the evening, in presence of the enemy, and in excellent order.

The combat lasted four hours. The whole Pontifical army, with three batteries of artillery, of which, however, they could only place a few guns in position, were in our front. The behaviour of the volunteers during the fight was praiseworthy, and almost all the general and superior officers suffered in person during the critical moments of the fight. But the seeds of dissolution scattered through the body by the infamous arts of the hired agents of the authorities, the failure of ammunition, the miserable arms, the evident want of an object, had rendered victory impossible. The individual actions of gallantry were numerous, and on receiving the reports we shall make them known. Our losses may amount to 250 dead and wounded, and some hundreds of prisoners; but the enemy paid still more dearly for his victory.

Official Italian reports raised the number of prisoners to 1,100, all of whom have been given up by the French. It seems evident from this fact, as well as from some expressions in the report, confirmed by private statements, that a portion of the volunteers had not behaved very well. But for this the reasons suggested seem to be an ample explanation. It must have been felt in the ranks that victory could not give Rome, and though it is reasonable to suppose that by the date of the fight none were in the ranks, after the terrible trials they had passed through, save those who were ready to give their lives for that object, it is as reasonable to allow that they might well think of safety when there was no longer a remote possibility even of success. On the other hand, the heavy losses in killed and wounded, and the fact that the enemy did not venture to molest the retreat, showed that at many points the fighting must have been desperate. It is said that a portion of the Papal troops were armed with the Chassepot rifles, which did terrible execution. If true, the fact shows that the reports of Chas-

sears de Vincennes having for some weeks past been privately sent to fill up the Papal ranks have not been without foundation.

General Garibaldi, on arriving at Corose on the evening of the 3rd, issued a manifesto stating that as the mixed intervention had taken out of his hands the object of his enterprise—the liberation of Rome—he withdrew from it. General Fabrizi was charged with the necessary details of the dissolution of the force, and Garibaldi telegraphed to Leghorn for a vessel to take him to Caprera, and next morning, attended by many of his late staff, he set off by special train for Florence, on his way to that port. But at Vigline the train was stopped by Colonel of Carbineers Carnozzi, who required the general to descend, and told him he was under arrest. Garibaldi demanded the warrant, but was told there was no warrant but an order from government. He denied its authority over one guilty of no crime against the Italian government, and claimed his right in the character of a deputy, a Roman general appointed by a regular government, and an American citizen, and declared that he would only submit to force. His friends prepared to defend, but he forbade them, and opposed only a passive resistance. Crispi telegraphed to Florence to the government for leave to Garibaldi to proceed quietly to Caprera, pledging himself that there should be no demonstration; but, after an hour had elapsed, no reply arrived, and Colonel Carnozzi ordered Garibaldi's removal. Four carbineers took him up in their arms and placed him in the train, in which only his family were allowed to accompany him. He is now at Spezzia. You will have by this time the official exposition in the *Gazette* of this evening of the reasons for this action by government. It is proper to add that the committing any act leading to a possibility of war with a neighbouring power is a crime under the Italian code.

Florence is full of regular troops, which are poured into it still by every train. The news of the withdrawal of national forces from the papa territory has been received with sullen acquiescence. The only difference is that the liberal journals desire it should inaugurate a position towards France resembling that held towards Austria in regard to Venice. The ministerial papers desire, on the contrary, to make it the basis of new negotiation.

THE WAR IN THE NORTH.

Itapiru, Dec. 6, 1867.

Gentlemen,
On the 29th ult. returned the expedition of Coronel Correa to Tuyu-Cue. It reached within a few leagues of the Tebicuari without meeting a human being. Lots of fat cattle, horses, and poultry were found, but the dwellings were all left vacant and unprotected. This expedition brought back with it 1,200 head of horses and cattle, amongst which were 600 milch cows, and 400 horses. Nothing of importance has transpired with respect to the expedition; it seems to have been a reconnaissance and foraging party. The Brazilians marched by the river path, reached the mouth of the Tebicuari, where it is reported they found a strong guard and a battery mounting fifteen pieces of artillery, protected by which lay in the river several Paraguayan steamers; if such be the case, the Brazilians left it, as it was, for there was no fighting.

On the 30th ult., the Argentine steamer Gualeguay arrived with nearly 200 men to recruit the Argentines. They came partly from the Provinces and partly from Buenos Ayres, the latter being engaged. This contingent embarked at Rosario on board the war steamer Chacabuco (a craft of dismal fame), where it seems to have received rather severe treatment, crowded, half starved, and roasted in a blazing sun for a couple of days, then freely treated with a mess of dry farina and water *ad libitum*.

Cholera broke out amongst them, and carried off thirty-six of their number on the shortest possible notice. In Goya the survivors were transferred to the Gualeguay and brought up here. Twenty of them were sent to the Argentine hospital in Itapiru, and the authorities becoming acquainted with their wretched condition, every measure possible was taken for their comfort. No new cases appeared after their arrival here. The Captain of the Gualeguay, however, the day following was taken ill with a very severe attack of cholera, which happily yielded to the treatment of Dr. Macdonald; he is now quite well.

Cholera and small-pox continues—the former in a mild form; the latter amongst the Brazilians and children

unvaccinated, generally attended with fatal results. There is not a solitary case of it in the Argentine hospital.

A commissioner was going round the Comercio yesterday, taking down the names of all the residents and their employes capable of bearing arms, irrespective of nationality; it seems for the purpose of having a deposit of arms stationed close by, and of calling them out to defend themselves should another 3rd Nov. happen. At the same time, other commissioners were on the *qui vive* for deserters, and those who had no papelitap, or such as could not produce the requisite document, were summarily sent forward to the lines, mounted on jaded mules, and now and then brought to a sense of their situation by a slap of a broadsword; in fact, those that demurred going were treated like housebreakers.

Just as the hymn of victory is being chanted, and a speedy and complete termination is momentarily expected—just as the calculations as to the best mode of disposing of the vanquished foe, and of receiving the death struggles of the dying tyrant—lo! there appears one of those peculiar touches of the necromancer's wand, so common in this war, changing the whole aspect of affairs. Lopez shut up, besieged, closely invested, without more than two alternatives, remain where he is, surrender or die of starvation, or break through the allied lines. None of these are necessary: another mode of getting out of the dilemma not looked for makes the closing of Tuyu of little use. Lopez has cut a road in the Chaco (so is the very generally accepted belief), by which he has free communication with the interior. It is said that this road had to be cut through seven leagues of heavily timbered woodland.

The grand topic—or rather I should say the principal matter that now agitates the great bulk of the Argentine officers—is the election of the President. Like the Roman legions, the army seems to think that the settling of this vital question depends on itself. One thing is pretty certain that the army candidate runs a very good chance of being elected. I need not say that this nominee is Sarmiento, who will, doubtless, be seated in the Presidential chair if the soldiers gain the day.

Of late the belligerents are more prodigal of powder, shot, and shell than ever. Now, every day and every night a continuous cannonade, as well as a roll of musketry, is heard in the direction of the allied encampments; however, it don't amount to much. Where the Paraguayans get their ammunition from is an enigma that time can only solve. People here are divided in their opinions, as respects the next move of Lopez; some suppose another dash at Tuyu, here, or at the Chaco railroad, which is rapidly progressing. It is known he persists in concentrating his fortifications, retiring his guns to his nearer line. Desertions from the enemy's lines are frequent; as usual, the runaways tell inconsistent tales. One day Lopez has gone raving mad, and become a complete maniac. The next, he has just introduced *via* the new Chaco road, into Humaita 5,000 head of cattle, and that the whole army are busily employed in preparing an ample supply of jerked beef, working day and night. The number of such stories might be enlarged, let the two versions suffice. I should not omit mentioning that yesterday there was landed, and sent to the headquarters of Casias, a sum of money said to consist of 200 contos de reis in English gold.

On the third the Brazilian transport Itapiru came in with a contingent from Rio; the troops were landed at sunset of the same day, and marched in military order in the cool of the evening to the lines. As usual the soldiers were mostly men of color, and well equipped. The Argentine armed steamer Sylph also came in with a contingent, upon the third day after her arrival the troops were landed and marched on foot at noonday "comme il faut" to the lines escorted by a company of mounted spearmen.

Argentine steamer Charrna with an English brigantine in tow, both vessels were laden with horses. Italian gunboat Arditia, with a deep loaded schooner in tow. American steamer Palmyra with a barque and two brigs in tow; the steamer came loaded with hay and carts, the tows brought horses. Argentine steamer Yaguarete with a brig in tow, both where hay laden. Three steam tugs from Corrientes with chatas in tow loaded with sheep, fowls and commissariat stores to Mr. Lanuz. Three daily packets from Corrientes with passengers and freight came in true to time. The above named vessels are the arrivals here of one day. It may give an idea of the commerce of Itapiru at the present moment.

With respect,
SINBAD.

ROSARIO.
(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)
Dec. 7, 1868.

I should like to know when an Argentine Bulwer will occupy himself in writing a history or a romance on the "Last of the Moutoneros." We can hardly take up a paper from the Interior, without reading this 'epigrafe,' and yet the same paper will invariably contain intelligence of a new and improved edition of the 'Montonera.' This chronic evil in the Interior Provinces, bears a strong resemblance to the brigandage in the South of Italy. There appears to be no political object. It is only the bad elements of the Provinces that take advantage of the debility of the Governments, and congregate, in the shape of 'gauchos,' criminals, and disappointed politicians, to make war on the defenceless population.

All seriously armed opposition appears to be subdued in the Northern and Andine Provinces. Gen. Navarro, by all accounts the best man in the Interior, has settled Mr. Varela, and by last advices is marching on Rioja, instigated by Taboada, to reinstate the petty Governor, Mr. Davila. It is a very great pity that a man like Gen. Navarro should be forced into making common cause with Taboada. Navarro is one of the few men in the Upper Provinces that is to be trusted. He is loyal, liberal in his ideas, and is not actuated by ambition. He is, in fact, a safe man, while Taboada is an exceedingly dangerous one. A very exact comparison can be drawn between Lopez of Paraguay, and Taboada of Santiago. Both are educated men; both are highly intelligent, with natural military talents; both are proud and haughty; and both seem to be imbued with Napoleonic ideas as to how the masses ought to be governed. Such a thing as allowing the people the liberty of thought, word, or action, is something entirely opposite to the ideas of these two men, one the despot of a Nation, the other the despot of a Federal Province.

It is unfortunate for the National Government, as well as for the nation at large, that Taboada seems to be the only man powerful enough in the Northern Provinces to quell the rising storm. The position that he has been placed in has increased his power to a dangerous extent. Viewing the affairs of the Interior in an impartial light, I consider it very unfortunate that the Government did not name General Navarro as head man in those Provinces. Navarro, without being a 'caudillo,' carries with him the adhesion of Catamarca, Salta, and Junju, and even Tucuman would receive Navarro with open arms to save itself from the influence of Taboada. The latter, knowing the great moral strength of Navarro, had him named his second in the war, and it is well known that the Lieutenant has done all the work, while the Chief has done nothing but increase his political capital.

Still, I am very far from agreeing with your contemporary, the *Republica*, that mentions Taboada as one of the probable candidates for the Presidency. This is simply ridiculous. Apart from the vote of Santiago, which Taboada can command if he chooses, he is not certain of even a majority of votes in the Provinces of Catamarca and Rioja. In Tucuman and Salta he is disliked and feared; while in the other Provinces of the Republic he would not be sure of one single vote. The only chance he may have is that his name may be tacked to a popular candidate for the Presidency as Vice-President; and even then it might probably turn out as it did in the last election, when Mr. Taboada, on a par with Messrs. Alsina and Sarmiento, received one single vote for the Vice-Presidency. Mr. Taboada, being a kind of little king in Santiago, probably is blind to the fact that his real character is appreciated and understood by all the other Provinces.

The election excitement in this Province is on the increase. The Freyre party will not accept any "arreglo," and seem determined to fight it out. In this case it is hard to give an opinion of the result. Besides, the personal friends of Cabal, he is supported, strangely enough, by the enemies of the present Administration, and the man who was instrumental in securing the passing of the Civil Marriage Bill, is supported by the clergy. It is difficult to understand politics in this country. With such strong elements at his command, it seems more than probable that Mr. Cabal will secure the elections.

There seems to be no doubt that we have the cholera again. I have not seen a case personally, but the medical men have them on their hands. The town however is not alarmed; I do not know of any family having left. From the fact that deaths have not occurred amongst the careless inha-

bitants of dirty ranchos, the first who always fall victims to a contagious disease, it is reasonable to hope that the cholera has not taken the dangerous phase it did last year. The spring has been very wet and the weather extremely variable. The natural consequences are an abundance of cases of dysentery and diarrhoea, accompanied by coughs and colds. Under these circumstances, it is probable that common diseases may assume a fatal typhoid phase, and may easily be mistaken for cholera. It is known that typhus exists in Cordoba. On the 3rd a well known citizen of Rosario, Mr. Mariano Amigo, died in that city of typhus fever.

A species of black small-pox prevails in Parana, and all passengers from above are passed under observation before being allowed to land. D. Mariano Cabal, the candidate for the governorship, had to undergo quarantine the other day, for four and twenty hours. From what I can learn however the report about the small-pox, if not false altogether, is highly exaggerated.

The Gran Chaco Railway Bill sanctioned by the Provincial Legislature has received the signature of the Governor. It has the privilege of continuing the road to Santiago. In my last I spoke about this enterprise. I remark in the statutes a disposition that I am sure has never yet entered into any Railway contract. Mr. Cabal sets forth in one of the articles that two per cent of the net profits is to be set aside to be delivered to the Commissioner of Provincial Fund; and two per cent more is to be given, of which three premiums are annually to be formed to be handed to those families of the Colonies of San Carlos, San Geronimo and Esperanza, who have proved themselves the most meritorious. There is an off-handed liberality in this that accords well with the character of Mr. Cabal. The first Directory of the Railroad will be composed, as I am given to understand, of Messrs. Patricio and Tomas Cullen and Mariano Comas.

The news from the North American Colony is cheering. Their wheat crops are splendid, and the *Tiempo* of Santa Fé says that relatively this colony will give double the products that any of the others will, on account of the intelligence and industry of the colonists. A sample of their wheat sent down to Santa Fé was pronounced the first in the province. The colonists have received several additions to their number from California; and lately a number of Welshmen of the Chupat Colony have settled alongside of the Californian Colony on lands given to them by the Government.

It seems that the Government considers that the contract with Messrs. Wilcken and Vernet is cancelled, as part of this concession has been given to the Welshmen, another part sold to the Mr. Grognet, and another to Mr. Laprade, both gentlemen of Rosario. A quantity of the lands of the Rey has also been denounced by purchasers. All this is the result of my expedition to the Chaco last year, and making known the admirable quality of the lands existing there. Eighteen months ago no one knew anything about them, and no one would have given ten dollars per league for them. Now they are worth from four to seven hundred dollars per league. Thus it is that the man who sits in his arm chair at home, comes quietly in and takes advantage of the unpaid labors and sufferings of the explorer. However it is gratifying to me to know that my labors have had such a grand result for the country, even if I profit nothing by them. Many thought that my accounts of the Chaco were exaggerated and interested. Now they find out they are neither one nor the other.

The Colony Helvecia, half-way between Santa Fé and San Javier, will produce this year 12,000 bushels of wheat, and corn, potatoes, and batatas in proportion.

A German gentleman who visited the Californian Colony, says it did his heart good to see the admirable culture of the farms there and the appearance of the crops.

We have no data as yet from the three principal Colonies, except that the crops are all looking very fine.

The hurricane of Wednesday night did a good deal of damage amongst the small craft in the port. A small steam launch was sunk, but the agents, Messrs. Keen and Soames, have got her up without damage.

The wool market is very dull. The first sale was for 23 Bolivian rls., but the price immediately went down to 22. Sheepfarmers are discouraged. The facts, that my prognostications are being daily corroborated. The Litoral must become an agricultural country, and means must be attained

to breed sheep on the cheap lands of the interior and the frontier.

Messrs. Wheatly and Kemmis, owners of an estancia at Totoras, eight leagues from the railroad, which they are making one of the finest establishments in the province, tell me they are succeeding perfectly with their sheep on hard grass. But opinions are very conflicting on this subject. Nevertheless, if our estancia succeeds, it is an affirmation that half a dozen negatives cannot disprove.

I am, Gentlemen, yours truly,
W. P.

REMARKS ON WOOL.

The following statistical remarks on the European wool markets, taken from a late South African paper just received, will interest our readers:—

Colonial wools.—We find that the total quantity imported into London during last year (1866) was 455,819 bales against 432,852 during the previous year; while the quantity imported during the seven months ending 31st July last was 283,177 bales. The following table gives the gross sales during February-March and May-June series during the last six years:—
Year—1862 bales 14,098; 1863 142,372; 1864 155,541; 1865 243,213; 1866 242,633; 1867 296,069.

For the August sales (to commence the 15th of that month) there had arrived up to the end of July 111,767 bales, held over from previous series, 25,000 bales, and expected to arrive before the sales opened, 22,536 bales, together 159,303 bales.

The English clip this year, we read, was large and good; fleeces were selling at 15d. to 18d. per lb., which was lower than at the close of June, and as the tendency was towards a further decline, that circumstance would, it was thought, unfavourably influence the course kinds of Australian wools. Before passing on to notice the Havre and Antwerp wool markets we will just add that the grand total of colonial and foreign wools imported into the ports of London, Liverpool, Hull, Hartlepool, Grimsby, Bristol, and Leith during 1866 aggregated 790,458 bales against 685,634 bales in 1865. At the Havre wool sales held on the 18th July last and following day, 7,700 bales River Plate wools were offered at auction, and met with good competition at a slight advance on June sales. The stock of unsold wools, the produce of Buenos Ayres and Montevideo, was about 22,000 bales. The Antwerp public sales of similar wools commenced on the 30th July and were to terminate on the 10th August. The quantity catalogued totalled 24,500 bales, equal in quantity to about 45,000 bales colonial, and in value ranging from 6d. to 9d. per lb., for unwashed sorts. Stocks in England of this description of wools were small, as considerable sales had been made in their prior to the end of July. Antwerp is, as is well known, the great mart for River Plate wools, formerly half the clip from that quarter found its way there, but since the American Congress adopted the Protection-Tariff now in force, the imports into the Belgian port have embraced a still greater proportion of these wools. Hitherto the quantity exported from the Plate to London has been very small, having been under 1,500 bales in each of the years 1865 and 1866. Gradually, however, it is confidently predicted by men largely experienced in the Home, Colonial, and Foreign wool trade, that the finer descriptions of Buenos Ayres, Cordova, Uruguay, and Entre Rios wools, will find their way in considerable quantities to the greatest of all European wool markets, and there enter into active competition with the ordinary Cape and Australian fleeces. For the present none of the La Plata clips can compare either for fineness of staple or general "get up" with those usually sent to England from the South African and Australian Colonies. The spirit of improvement, however, is abroad in all the Riverine Provinces of the Plate, where English enterprise directs and English labour aids, and where the existing governments of Buenos Ayres, Montevideo, Santa Fé, and Entre Rios foster and encourage in every possible way the development of this, to them, new and important industry. Knowing something of the countries on both sides the river, and of the class of Englishmen who have made them their homes, we can quite believe that in a very few years the Plate will be the largest wool-growing country in the world. An experienced Australian sheep-farmer, who lately passed this way on his return home after a three years' sojourn in the Banda Oriental (Uruguay Republic), informed us that the sheep-runs in the latter country were as three to one compared with those in Victoria and New South Wales.—*Peri Elizabeth Telegraph.*

ADVERTISEMENT.

The undersigned, consignees of produce, fearing that in view of the unfavorable news brought by the last packet, in regard to the prices of produce, and in consequence of the paralysis of trade produced by the unhealthy state of the city, which has occasioned the temporary absence of the greater part of the dealers, they deem it their duty to recommend their constituents to abstain from making remittances of produce until affairs return to their normal condition, believing that in so doing they best consult the interests of their friends by saving them as far as possible from the losses likely to be incurred in the existing state of business.

Buenos Ayres, Dec. 16, 1867.
 (Signed.)
 Miguel Duggan.
 Fernandez y Moreno.
 Daniel Hayes.
 Bernabe Arambulo.
 Ghiraldo hnos y Cia.
 Sros. Unzué é hijos.
 Emiliano Perez.
 Juan Robbis é hijos.
 Millan y Lobet.
 Emilio Castro.
 152 | xp d18

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THE WEEKLY STANDARD.

"Nil falai audeam, nil veri non audeam dicere."
 CICERO.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1867.

STOPPAGE OF SPECIE PAYMENT IN MONTEVIDEO.

Without any desire to criticise too hardly the recent measure of the Montevidean Government legalising the stoppage of specie payments, we feel constrained to say that the urgent public necessities usually put forward by governments as the excuse for such an act, are not very apparent in the case in question; the very language of the decree in question is laboured and transparent, and we regret sincerely to be obliged to confess that Montevideo, with all its go-aheadism, has set an example in the River Plate, which public honour, credit and good faith reprobate.

This is the third time, we believe, that the Montevidean Government has come to the rescue of its banks, and there are sound reasons for believing it will be the last; for although much as we deplore the readiness of the Government to lend itself to such an act, we are happy to think that the magnitude of the paper money evil is becoming so great that henceforward the whole power of a rickety republican administration will be impotent to stem the evils which a rotten financial system engenders.

When the decree was first made known in Buenos Ayres there was a misconception as to the motives, and an erroneous suspicion as to the parties whose influence dictated the measure: the bank which has held for so many years the lions share of the circulation was at once suspected; but all this mistification has cleared away, and now all who know anything of the state of financial affairs in Montevideo are aware that the suspension of specie payments was resorted to, to bolster up an institution which hitherto had the reputation of doing the largest business, and during the few short years of its existence declared the largest dividends amongst its shareholders. But the collapse of a bank, serious and great as the loss might prove to the public, is by no means commensurate with the inconvenience, and we believe we may add ruin which this ill-timed measure is calculated to effect. All the sound banks of Montevideo have an interest at stake, in repudiating this arbitrary relief and bringing the bank which has led to such a compromise, face to face with the public.

All mercantile men admit that there can be no resumption of specie payments until one or two banks are wound up; and yet to wind up these banks owing to their large issues and the immense amount of inconceivable securities in their 'cartera,' cannot be effected without causing a decline in property which few are prepared for; but it was absolutely impossible that banking business could go on, on the slippery footing established in Montevideo without a grand smash—paper money was stricken off by the million; every one in Montevideo had an open credit in one or other of the new banks; millions were paid away in the shape of indempities upon the flimsy and unnegetable government paper, which had 6, 9, 12, 15, 18, 24, and even 30 months to run; mortgages were executed upon city property for, we may say, imaginary amounts. A man bought a building site, in say 2,000 pats, builds a house thereon, which, even at the most extravagant

prices to operatives, only cost \$13,000—the next day the whole property was mortgaged to the bank in 16,000 or 20,000 pats. And so, on the great facility which some enjoyed for raising paper money at the banks on this description of property, gave increased value to the property; building sites and lots at Union, Cordon, and other parts rose with magical rapidity in the market. But the country could not keep pace with all this artificial prosperity, and down came the whole fabric owing to the iron despotism of the exchange market.

The monthly bank statements, published with such sworn veracity, such religious exactitude, are proved now to be mere shams, since the banks count the bills of other banks as specie. The carteras of the bank managers prove equally delusive, since the bank that holds half Montevideo under bond and mortgage, and shows Government bills and vouchers for more than its whole emission, is in the most dangerous of plights, and must inevitably be wound up. The millions represented by the securities in the cartera are all of a fictitious value and cannot be realized, save at a terrible sacrifice. Thus our old thesis holds good; the bank that did the most business will now realise the most losses, and the bank with the smallest cartera is the safest. As a matter of course, there is a squeeze, and this squeeze is amongst the banks themselves to see who remains with the least paper. Banking business in Montevideo is carried on a far different system from that in Buenos Ayres. Here the banks hold large deposits, there only savings banks hold deposits. The banks of Montevideo are purely institutions of convenience. Three-fourths or seven-eighths of all the paper money in circulation is held by the banks each night, hence the severity of the loss, if any of the banks smash, must fall on the banks themselves more than on the public.

The best banks, as a matter of course, hold up their own bills, and pay out in the notes of the other banks, whilst the weak banks, on the contrary, are but too glad to part with their own paper, and hold up that of the others. This has already led to some altercation in one of the banks, but we cannot censure the conduct of the manager doing the best for his institution under such critical circumstances, for he, in collecting the outstandings of the Bank, is forced to accept every bill offered.

There is much to learn by a calm contemplation of the present financial state of Montevideo. The working classes gained such high wages, and business generally, for the last two years, has given such splendid returns, that the country itself could not keep pace with the growing wealth of a class purely consumers, whilst the producers were each day becoming more impoverished. Let the bank books of Montevideo be thrown open, and then will be seen the rather anomalous fact, that the debtors of the Montevidean banks are, for the most part, people who have property and pass for rich, whilst the poorer class are the chief creditors. All this may be traced to the outrageous borrowing-lending mortgaging that has been going on to help speculation in building sites and city property. By the great fall in the wool market the productive powers of the country have been diminished, whilst, by the enormous expansion of the currency, unproductive consumption has been increased. The Government, ministers, and legislators are impotent in such a crisis, and the stoppage of specie payments can only result in the immediate winding up of some of the most inflated of the banks.

THE STATE OF THE CITY.

None can charge us with alarming the public. None can point to a line in the Standard uncalled for at the present awful crisis; but it is idle to attempt to conceal the fact, that the state of the city is going from bad to worse; and, where all this will stop, God alone can tell. We had determined to exclude from our columns today, everything touching the melancholy state of this pestiferous town, but our letters received yesterday morning from Paraguay and Rosario, and the sad and harrowing tales of human sorrow and affliction we are forced to hear hourly in our office, compels us again to treat on this lugubrious subject.

The people are fleeing this city, just like rats from a doomed vessel: no road is too long, no train too crowded, no bullock-cart too dilapidated to intimidate the citizens; sheep puestos are turned into lodging-houses, estancias-houses into hotels. People will insist on it that the country-air is the very best of all remedies, and although an isolated case here and there

occurs outside, the faith of the multitude in the camp is nothing abated. The splendid appeal of Dr. Lopez to the common sense of the public; his measure, brought before the Legislature, caused an intense feeling in town yesterday, and the great indignation meeting in the Plaza Victoria, proved that at last the people are in earnest. "Down with the Municipality," was the watchword yesterday, and down they are at last. We have triumphed over that corrupt Board; we speak against that Board collectively, not individually, as there are one or two members men of high honor and integrity, but who find it hopeless to get the Board to do anything. All the papers have joined with the Standard; and, thank Heaven, we have kicked the Board into its grave.

Facts are now transpiring which prove the full justice of our attacks on the Municipality. Thirty rickety old basura carts, it appears, is the sum total of the municipal ambulances for removing the city filth!!!—thirty carts for a city last week boasting of a population of a quarter of a million of inhabitants!!! What criminal neglect, what outrageous perfidy! People saw the dust-boxes at the doors of the houses at a late hour in the day. They blamed the cartmen and the peones; but murder will out: the truth has come at last, and thirty municipal carts is what the Municipality deem sufficient for 27,000 houses!!!

Is there any law, justice, right, honor, or rectitude left in the country, when such things are tolerated? If a man gallop in the street, he is at once pounced upon, and fined by the Municipality \$100 mpc.; but there is no fine for Peña and his satellites, who leave the city in such an awful plight.

At the market, in Calle Defensa, yesterday, we inspected the stalls. There we saw green fruit, stale vegetables, and repulsive-looking meat exposed for sale. No inspector, no sheriff's officers—nobody, in fact, that cared a pin's point whether the butchers sold prussic acid or beef-steaks. Such an abandoned state of things shook our confidence in the future of this great but neglected country. We turned from the place with a shudder, and thought of the fools we all are who trust to servant girls to feed us.

The filth and offal in that low ditch which is spanned by the wooden bridge in Calle Defensa is worse than ever. Last April the Committee of Inspection for the parish reported on this nuisance, told the Municipal Board that the houses adjoining used the place for a 'letrina,' and until it rained the place was never cleaned: they insisted upon a wide sewer being built to carry off the current and the filth: they told the Board what might be expected if allowed to remain until the heat of summer set in.—To this hour not a single step has been taken! What is the consequence?—sickness is rife in the quarter, and Don Mariano Billinghurst, and others on the Inspection Committee at once resigned; and now the parish is without even an Inspection Committee!—in fine, there is no limit to the crimes of the Municipality! Thank Heaven, they are annihilated!

Respecting the poisonous nature of the river water, there can no longer be any question. A respected citizen at Santa Lucia, whose 'algibe' had run dry, availing himself of the recent high tide in the river, sent a peon to get a couple of pipes of water, which he obtained and put into the algibe. The unfortunate daughter of the proprietor was the first to drink the water on Sunday morning. In four hours she was a corpse. All the medical aid of Buenos Ayres proved useless.

Now, these are all solemn facts, and we believe, that it is our duty to publish them. We cling to the hope that Divine Providence will mercifully dispel the gloom which hangs over the city; but meanwhile, and although putting the fullest confidence in the Almighty, we must not neglect to adopt every necessary precaution, for we may exclaim with the prophet—
 "With desolation is the land laid desolate,
 For no man thinketh in his soul."

LATEST NEWS FROM QUILMES.

December 9.
 Being the saint day of Quilmes, the authorities, &c., have had a blow-out. The church ceremony was well attended by town and camp folks. The ball at night was crowded with people from town (Buenos Ayres.) I can give you no details, unless by hearsay, because, I suppose being a shopkeeper, I had not the honor of receiving an invitation, or perhaps because of my too liberal and democratic sentiments.
 BERNARD, Standard Agent.

ABOLITION OF THE MUNICIPALITY.

Yesterday, the largest and most influential meeting ever known in Buenos Ayres was held in the Plaza Victoria.

At two o'clock, the hour appointed, about fifty assembled on the pavement in front of Messrs. Zimmermann, Fair, and Co.'s office. When a sufficient number gathered, the leaders of the movement started for the steps of the Cathedral, and a chair having been obtained,

Dr. Lopez called the meeting to order. In his usual lucid, flowing style, he pointed to the melancholy state of this city. Half the population had fled, and the remainder dejected and doer-wharted at the awful mortality going on, something must be done in this sad crisis. The Municipality had proved a most worthless body. The people are dying around. No measures have been resorted to—the same humbug going on day after day. The hour had arrived when it was essential that the people should take the matter up. He moved, therefore, that a committee of five be named to wait on the Municipality in the name of the people of Buenos Ayres, and demand their resignation.

The following were amongst those named on the committee:—
 Don Mariano Billinghurst.
 Dr. Argerich.
 E. T. Mulhall.
 Dr. Lopez.

Don Mariano Billinghurst rose amidst a burst of applause. He told the assembled multitude that so far back as last April, when on the inspecting committee, he notified the Municipality of the necessity of adopting some sanitary measure in his parish; he pointed to the nuisances, informed the board of the exact locality, but to this hour not a single step had been taken; cholera raged around affliction carried to many a once happy home, and mourning in every street; the Municipality looked on impassible, it was necessary to do something. We are here to-day to do that something; we are here to demand our rights; we are here to teach the Municipality its duty; we are here to tell these men the will of the people of Buenos Ayres, and with God's help we will accomplish our end. Mr. Billinghurst spoke with an eloquence which springs from conviction and earnestness. Owing to the waves of human beings which beat around the steps of the Cathedral, it was impossible to follow him. Cheer after cheer followed each pause. He spoke for about 10 minutes.

Dr. Argerich then came forward, and in a splendid oratorical display told the people of Buenos Ayres the dangers that surround and the duties of the hour. We regret, owing to the noise and push, our inability to report his speech, but it was every way worthy of this distinguished lawyer.

The committee then formed and proceeded arm in arm to the Municipality Chambers, where the whole board were sitting. When the committee entered there was evidently a tremble in the Council Chamber, Don Mariano Billinghurst, Dr. Argerich and Dr. Lopez in short discourses stated the object of the committee and that the people of Buenos Ayres assembled outside were resolved upon the absolute and unconditional resignation of the board, and would be satisfied with nothing else. Ascuenaga and Pena and some others of the defunct board attempted to argue the point, but the committee declined to hear anything: the shouts in the room, "Down with the Board." The shouts below to the same effect. The melo-dramatic attitude of old Ascuenaga, the trembling voice of Pena, the roar of Billinghurst formed a scene which baffles description, the upshot of it was, that the Municipality point blank refused to retire.

Mr. Billinghurst then drew out his watch and, in the name and on behalf of the citizens of Buenos Ayres, gave the Municipality one hour to consider, at the expiration of which the citizens would adopt the best course they thought proper.

Ascuenaga and some others shouted out that they would never resign, and that they would turn the Committee downstairs.

Dr. Mariano Billinghurst then, with the other members of the Committee descended to the Plaza, and acquainted the citizens of the resolution to give the Municipality one hour.

The Committee then proceeded to the Government-house to wait on the Governor; the crowd, still remaining in the Plaza, resolved to wait the hour out, and then settle accounts with the hated Board.

When the Committee arrived at the Government-house, they were received by the Provincial Prime Minister, Dr.

Avellaneda, in the Governor's apartment. Shortly after Dr. Varela, Minister of Hacienda, arrived.

Mr. Billinghurst explained to the Ministers the object of their visit, and as a very serious row was impending, demanded of the Governor to insist on the resignation of the Board.

Dr. Argerich and Dr. Lopez followed in the same strain. There seemed, however, to be some hesitation on the part of the Ministers to meddle in the matter. The Governor, owing to a domestic affliction, was at his house.

Mr. Mulhall, as one of the committee, addressed the Ministers. He deplored that the first occasion he had of appearing at a public meeting and figuring on a committee, should be on the subject of cholera; but things had come to such a crisis it was impossible to be a passive spectator. Something must be done, and, to aid the putting down the villainous municipality. He was no longer a foreigner; he was an Argentine. He pointed to the criminal neglect in every branch of municipal affairs. Even this very day the municipal dirt-carts were throwing old clothes and mattresses from the hospital into an empty square near the Plaza Once. In the name of law, of justice, and on behalf of the outraged citizens of Buenos Ayres, that the Government once and for ever annihilate the municipality.

The Ministers replied, and expressed a wish to have time to see the Governor. Dr. Avellaneda proceeded to consult the Municipality, and advise them to resign, but this retrograde board sternly refused. Meanwhile, the committee, headed by D. Mariano Billinghurst, returned to the Plaza; the crowd showed signs of impatience; double guards were posted at the Policia, to keep back the crowd. When we entered the Policia all was uproar and noise. The committee again went upstairs, and told the board that there was but ten minutes left. Ascuenaga roared out that he would never resign, yet he was the first to escape when the push came.

Gradually the people got upstairs. There was a fling-him-out-of-the-window attitude on the countenances of the citizens who entered. "Abajo la Municipalidad" was the roar above, below, around. Municipal papers were pitched out of the window; the citizens appeared on the balconies of the municipal windows; shouts on all sides—the voice of Don Mariano Billinghurst high and above all could be heard. A slight push of the crowd, and in rushed the citizens—the municipal cowards fled to another room—the crowd followed—into a corner was at last pinned the President of the Board. Ascuenaga fled. One or two honorable men, who unhappily belonged to the board, and laboured ineffectually in the right cause, remained.

Some delay on the part of Peña exasperated the crowd; there was an ugly cry raised, fears began to be entertained for the trembling Octogénarian municipal; the Secretary of the Board went to the window at the street and roared out that the Board had resigned, but the crowd would listen to nothing but the written resignation. O'Gorman, Chief of Police, offered to guarantee that the fellows had resigned; it would not do—where was the paper. The crowd increased. Sor Varela sat down at the table, wrote out the resignation 'en masse' of the Municipality; the hand that held the ink bottle for the President to sign the paper was that which pens these lines, and which since the Water Supply Bill last March was thrown out, has ever continued the most ceaseless hostility to the retrograde board. What a victory!! The Municipality had accused and persecuted the Standard, now was our hour—*Sic semper tyrannus*. A death-like pallor came over Peña's countenance when he signed the paper, looked up, and beheld the Standard with the ink-bottle, it was too much for the poor old man, he sank on the table. But the roar outside was now greater than ever, and the shout "Here comes the Governor," heard on the stairs. Hundreds rushed up; every inch of room was occupied.

Governor Alsina spoke with Peña, told him to resign, and every one of his Board also, and then mounting on a chair, announced to the people that the Board had resigned, and he, as Governor of Buenos Ayres, pledged his solemn promise that it should be carried out, and that not a member should ever sit on that board again! This pacified the citizens; and we hurried to our office to report the proceedings, satisfied with the splendid victory which the Standard had achieved. Subsequently, Hector Varela spoke in his usual flowing style; and even at a late hour the people still held the Plaza. Thus died the Municipality of B. Ayres!

THE WAR IN THE NORTH.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)
Itapiru, Dec. 13.

Gentlemen,—
Again I am constrained to preface my epistle by stating there is nothing in the shape of war news to chronicle. On the 10th, the steamer Georgia Belle, with the American schooner Alba in tow, came in. Both brought horses, the former 160, of which number 62 died on the passage; the latter brought 264, losing but three on the way. Subsequently, seven steamers have come in, three of which had contingents; the others came loaded with hay, maize, or miscellaneous cargoes.

Of late the hay arrivals have not equalled the amount consumed—20,000 bales monthly is necessary. As a matter of course, the article is getting low.

The Brazilian authorities have solicited tenders for the future supply of forage to be delivered here and at Tuyucú.

The heat not only continues, but each day increases in intensity. Ordinary thermometers are of no use, not being manufactured for such a rapid and extensive expansion of the fluid metal: the exact degree of temperature cannot be ascertained. Judging from one's sensations, it may be called terrific, without the slightest exaggeration. The sun's rays, hot and sweltering as they are, might be borne with some degree of patience and fortitude, but what is absolutely unbearable is the fine glistening sand, clouds of which are raised by every breeze, filling every nook and cranny. The hot atmosphere thus impregnated, which, being respired, brings roundly before the imagination Dante's infernal regions, at least a moderate foretaste of Purgatory. Added to this highly stimulating condition of the air, the nervous system is kept in a constant state of irritation by the immense swarms of flies.

If one were not a suffering victim of the pranks of this insect tribe, what a splendid opportunity of studying its natural habits and instincts, they are so tame and domesticated. With what innocent confidence they alight on one's nose, enter into one's eyes, ears, and mouth, disputing with playful familiarity the sorry morsel. Yawning is out of the question. It seems—however superfluous the flies may appear to a new comer—that they are under the peculiar care of the authorities; for every available space around and about this quarter there is no end to the great nurseries of them. It may be from an economic point of view, for certainly they prevent the horses and cattle consuming the fodder that comes from Buenos Ayres, thus saving the maize and alfalfa (what a misnomer) to make bridges, fill up pantanos, and, by a careful exposure alternately to the rain and sun, produce a most suitable compost for preserving the hoofs of the animals soft and moist. Fortunately for this region, the heat is dry. If damp, there is no saying what terrible plagues would be the consequence.

Notwithstanding the great heat the commercial part of the population seems to be as active as ever. Amongst them 'siesta' is not much indulged in. From the lauding place to the village, and thence to Tuyuti, a continual stream of carts, oxen, horses, and mules driven by a yelling, hooting, and swearing pack, passengers, male and female, mounted or on foot, are on the move, representing every variety of complexion and clime. What fine specimens of the 'genus homo' are to be found on the shores of Itapiru. What refined ideas one should acquire, respecting the different foreign nations should the samples here be taken as a type. The cold bloated Briton, the lively Frenchman, the unscrupulous Italian, the romantic Spaniard, the plodding German, the go-ahead tobacco chewing American, the docile Argentine, the fawning Brazilian, the wild and savage gaucho, are all mixed up into one mass of confused brutishness. Here too "the inevitable nigger" in all his blackness reigns rampant, what lovely examples of the sable brother of Africa, could Mr. Senator Sumner or Mr. Wendell Phillips pick up here to form intelligent voters, good jurymen, wise and upright judges, honorable legislators, expert mathematicians, in a word, possessed "of every great and good qualification" more than sufficient to entitle them to rule white men, notwithstanding their baboon-like appearance (intellectually they are inferior to monkeys) or the noisome scent of the fluid matter exuding from their pores. In fine, it is a wild life and only those with good stomachs, and fixed resolutions should come here to hunt up fortunes. Murder is common

enough, the victim is found because he is invariably in a state of non mobility, but the perpetrator is never heard of. Yesterday at noon a slight incident took place in the middle of the Comercio at the shore; two men, an Oriental and a Salteño differing somewhat, the Salteño not being quite 'compos mentis' fell, and the Oriental taking advantage of the favorable posture of his antagonist sent a large knife right through his lungs; of course he walked off. Three hours afterwards the wounded man in a state of extreme prostration was brought to the Argentine hospital where he was immediately attended to; the surgeon pronouncing the wound to be highly dangerous. A similar occurrence happened at the playa of Itapiru later in the day, between two men, caused by a dispute concerning the merits of a horse; in this instance one of the combatants was killed, the other came off badly wounded: both of the champions were Porteños. Little else could be expected where rows of shanties supplied with every kind of alcoholic drinks in quantities enough to terrify any disciple of Father Mathew; where every villainous compound "that will make drink come" may be had "dirt cheap," where gold circulates like silver or copper in any other country—where a case containing a dozen bottles of Martell's best brandy or a like quantity of London particular old port, may be had for three Bolivian dollars. Bagley's hesperidisa and Hostotter's bitters (both manufactured and duly labeled on the spot) may be obtained very cheap; in fact, the liquid trash is the only cheap article in the market. The aerial explorers that were to perform such wonders in their balloon enterprise, have ceased to exist in this quarter. They have gone, and gone without leaving a trace of their existence, except some little disappointment in the minds of these sanguine dreamers that expected the aerial contrivance to overcome Lopez with great amount of gas. What hopes! "trifles light as air," nay lighter, are not the instruments to coerce Lopez. Steel and lead, properly tempered with a due quantum of Brazilian gold will do it. The undertakers of this mighty work have reaped little benefit from their sojourn here for they have not been paid, and don't seem to have fulfilled their part to the satisfaction of the chiefs of the army. As I have said, since last week absolutely nothing new has taken place. Lopez still continues to draw himself closer: great vigilance is observed at the outposts of the allied lines. Tuyuti is done up anew, and the general expectation is that Lopez will make another dash at some point. The accounts from the Chaco have no reliable foundation. It is certain that some communication from above with Humaita has been effected. The Argentine cavalry have it in commands to hold themselves prepared to march at an hour's notice. Here we have a respectable garrison as well as the protection of two gunboats; the shipping are again moored to the bank, forming a string of vessels a mile in length. Cholera still continues in Tuyucú, at Tuyuti, and here. At Tuyuti of late it has been gaining considerable force; here, although slightly on the increase, it is not of great moment. There was a case of it on board the Italian gunboat Arditi. Cannonnade and musketry in the morning as usual.

With respect,
SINBAD.

ROSARIO.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)
December 13.

It is useless to try and keep count of the depredations of the Indians. It is better to say at once that the savages have taken formal possession of part of the provinces of Cordoba, San Luis, and Mendoza, from Fraile Muerto up to the latter city. On the 2d of this month they pounced upon 2,000 head of cattle, within five leagues of Villanueva, and carried off two captives. The Indians are encamped at Macho Muerto, and appear to be quite at their ease, knowing that they will not be molested. In the last depredation they burnt the house of a Mr. Guerara, near Cermica. In an invasion that took place some five or six months ago, the Indians carried off Guerara's wife, and killed his two brothers-in-law. This time they have carried off all that was left on the estancia.

The people of the Provinces are speaking very openly of the fact, that while Cordoba, San Luis, Santa Fé, and Mendoza, are being continually invaded by the savages, the Province of Buenos Ayres is exempt from their depredations; and the conclusions they arrive at are not favorable either to National Government or the Provincial. However, I suppose the fact

can be accounted for easily enough: Buenos Ayres has more means at her disposal to secure her frontiers.

The Cordoba Government has at last organized 200 National Guards to send to the Southern frontier.

Wednesday was one of the hottest days ever known in Rosario. The mercury in several places in the shade rose to 104 and even 106. The evening, however, brought on a severe storm of wind and rain, which has cleared the atmosphere. Considerable damage was done to the shipping; one brig, loading with hay, was wrecked.

The cholera, or whatever it may be called, has presented itself with greater intensity. At Villanueva it broke out suddenly, and by last accounts was carrying off victims at the rate of ten a day. The railroad people are suffering: Mr. Baggott, an old employé of the line, died at Villanueva. An old and respectable citizen of Rosario, Mr. Cayetano Carbonel, died last night, and Mr. Uudabarena, of the Custom-house, is not expected to live. We are commencing again our arduous duties on behalf of humanity. The deaths in Rosario amount now to from ten to twelve per day. There is not so much alarm, however, as in April and March. Mr. Hutchinson, and the other medical men, are all very active. The disease appears to be more complicated than before, with cases of brain fever, typhus, and black vomit; but, at the same time, it appears to yield more readily to care and proper treatment.

I remain, Gentlemen,
Yours truly,
W. P.

LATEST FROM BRAZIL.

Rio de Janeiro, Dec. 2nd 1867.

I take advantage of the "Humboldt's" leaving this port for the River Plate to hand you the later advices from Europe and the United States to hand last evening by the "Halley."

I sent you by the Apa which left this on the 30th ult. the later advices from Europe which we had then just received by the Humboldt and which were fully as important as those which I now send.

The *Diario do Rio* has again changed hands, and it is to be hoped that the new editors and proprietors may strive as nobly to do their duty to this country and to the public as for a long time past the late proprietors did, rendering their paper the best news papers in Brazil; in a leading article couched in modest but dignified language Messrs. Quintino Bocayron, Charles Nathan, and B. Caymari took their leave of the public yesterday, and there can be no doubt that their retirement from the superintendence of one of our daily papers is universally regretted.

On the 25th ult. the Commercial Dock, constructed by the enterprising firm of Messrs. Hett Wilson & Co. of this city at their island of Mocangué was opened to the public in the presence of His Majesty the Emperor, the various members of the Imperial family and a large assemblage of the leading native and foreign families of Rio de Janeiro. The 'vigario capitular' of Rio blessed the dock and then the value was opened and the water soon filled the basin enabling the steamer Tacuaribe which was all decked out with flags to enter in gallant style. The Imperial Family then sat down to partake of a profuse and delicate lunch provided by the firm of the Messrs. Wilson & Co. in a neighboring saloon prepared for the occasion. During the ceremony and the luncheon the band of an Artillery regiment played a selection of musical pieces, and afterwards the Conselheiro Liberato Barros in an able and appropriate speech thanked the Emperor in the name of Messrs. Hett Wilson & Co. for his presence at that ceremony and congratulated the above-mentioned firm on the numerous advantages and improvements which their perseverance and enterprise had provided for the port of Rio de Janeiro.

The same night Mr. E. P. Wilton, partner and representative here of the firm of Hett Wilson & Co., gave a magnificent ball at his residence in the Largo do Machado at which was present the 'elite' of the Rio society; a splendid supper was furnished by the first confectioner in the place and dancing was kept up until 4 o'clock next morning.

This ball given by Messrs. Wilson and that given by his respected partner Mr. Hett previous to his departure from Brazil were two of the most luxurious entertainments ever offered by members of the British commercial community to the society of Rio de Janeiro.

The English steamers Amy and Anne Liffoy have arrived here and one or both of them will proceed to the Plate after taking in coal and other supplies.

The Rio Tribunal of Commerce has conceded to Messrs. Estienne & Co. the necessary permission to establish again in the Empire a commercial firm.

The Minister of the Empire has, in name of the government written to Mr. Hermann thanking him for the numerous acts of charity practised by him towards Brazil.

During the absence of the Italian Consul in Rio the Baron Rempere de Philippsborn, the consulate of that country will be under the charge of the vice-consul Mr. Luigi di Goyzueta di Marchesi di Toverena.

Exchange on London has been done at 20d. for bankers drafts and 20½ for private paper.

Sovereigns have been sold at 12½ and silver dollars (patacones) at 2½450. Shares of the Rio Commercial Bank have been sold at 2½ prem: and of the Banco Rural e Hypothecario at 160½.

Trieste flour has been sold at 27½ per blr. and Extra at 27½ per blr. Coffee is quoted at 7 to 7½400 superior 6½200 to 6½500 good first and 4½800 to 5½400 regular.

The Humboldt takes in silver to Montevideo 41,000\$ shipped by J. P. Bilter.

Brazilian 6 per cent. stock has been selling at 87½ per cent.

Bank of Brazil shares the last sales were at 191½.

I send you a note of the passengers arrived yesterday by the Halley and who go on to the River Plate.

I also enclose a note of the steamers expected to arrive in Rio during this month.

Through your Montevideo Agents I send you as usual a telegram with the most important news.

Exchange at Bahia on London (30th Nov.) 20½ to 20½; on Paris 465 per fr. and on Hamburg 858 rs. per MB. Sovereigns 11½500.

CABRAL.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

We refer our readers to the news from Rosario and the seat of war published in another column. The sanitary condition of the river ports is unsatisfactory; and it may become a question if steamers will be allowed to land passengers from up the river at the Tigre or Buenos Ayres. From a letter published by the *Tribuna* from the army at Tuyu-Cue it would appear that the sickness existing is as much dysentery and intermittent fever as cholera; but it is in the military camp that the latter scourge is germinated. An indignation meeting took place yesterday in the Plaza Victoria to visit the sins of war on the wretched Municipality of Buenos Ayres; and sins of omission and to spare, it has to answer for. But neither powers present nor to come will do more than palliate the evils in store for us until the pestilential farce is played out in Paraguay. As a means of palliation, we thankfully support the efforts of the Governor of the province and those of the citizens and Press of Buenos Ayres who have followed in the wake of this journal in advising instant and summary measures for the sanitary improvement of the city.

The steamer Rio de la Plata, which touched here yesterday morning on her way to the Uruguay, from Montevideo, took away upwards of 300 passengers from this port. Two hundred tickets were sold before her arrival. The more who run away the better for those who stay behind; and particularly as the fugitives take their fright with them, which is more contagious than disease.

There are two grievances, under present circumstances, which require attention. One is the exorbitant fares charged by hackney coaches. The public conveyances seem quite independent of the control of the police, and the juries seem to regulate their prices according to law of supply and demand, the state of the weather, their own inclinations, or by the verdancy of the "fare," or his proficiency in Spanish. No one can now get a coach to go two squares under \$50, say, in round numbers, eight shillings sterling. We hailed the advent of Mr. O'Gorman, the present chief of police, as we would the rising of a new constellation. We trust to him to remedy this evil.

The second grievance is beyond his control. We allude to the scarcity of doctors and the impossibility of knocking them out of their beds at night. We can only appeal to their humanity, with every consideration for the arduousness of their profession.

It may be a melancholy consolation to those whose vocation obliges them to remain in the city to know that in small villages on the Parana coast, and even far in the interior, disease is more fatal than in this large population. The towns, of Villanueva, in Cordova, on the one hand, and San Luis, in Corrientes, on the other, are

deserted. The fact, however, points to the focus of the pest.

We observe, by a telegram dated 16th inst., that the Government in Montevideo had followed up the last decree by another, which puts an extinguisher on all new banking projects for the present. This is all very well, but it is deplorable to think we can neither have fish nor good red herring. Give us a dictatorship, pure and undefiled, or freedom in banks and other things, with its good and its evil. About £148,000 was taken in Exchange by the Arno at Montevideo, but all before the decree appeared. The rates ranged from 50½d. to 51d.

The publication of the *Esperanza* of Corrientes has been suspended, by superior authority. The editors are in prison.

The United States war steamer Shamokin has succeeded in saving the American barque Littlefield, aground at the mouth of the river.

The fine property belonging to the Peña estate at the corner of Calle Belgrano and Bolívar, which was supposed to have been sold for \$1,200,000 to a French gentleman, is, we understand, again in the market, as the conditions of purchase were not fulfilled.

By an order of the Captain of the Port, all river steamers having sick on board are to go at once to Martin Garcia, where there is a lazarett and doctor.

The Provincial Government has sanctioned the immediate construction of reservoirs of filtered water, which will be placed near the barranca of the Recoleta. The decree signed by the Minister, Dr. Mariano Varela, ordains that the water-carriers of the city shall be obliged to supply themselves from these reservoirs. The Government places at the disposal of the engineers employed in the undertaking such of the material existing in the Western Railway as may be useful for the purpose. The rest will be purchased in the city. The works are to be commenced immediately. Admirably well done, as a beginning, Mr. Alsina. As for the incorrigible municipality, its knell is tolling in the plaza while we write.—R.I.P.

Thanks to the kind attention of a journeying British merchant, we received yesterday two splendid engravings, one of General Washington and the other of the patriot's mother. They adorn the walls of our office, and we fain would think, as they look down upon us in our editorial labours, the spirits of the mighty dead whisper—Down with the Municipality!

A subscriber has called on us to say that on Saturday last, in some of the principal streets in town, the 'vasura' boxes were standing filled outside the doors up to two o'clock p.m. on that day; and, yet the Municipality exists?

The lady-President of the Sociedad de Beneficencia notifies the public that from to-day the Italian Hospital will be open for the reception of cholera patients.

On Saturday night about 500 fires were kindled in the city. Sunday night the number was much less. Last night, in some of the south streets, there was a good blaze. To-night there is talk of a grand fire in front of the Municipal windows; but for the sentry at the door the fire would doubtless be kindled very convenient to the Building. The intense hatred of the people to the Municipality is on the increase. Mr. H. Varela has most properly resigned; his letter breathes candour. A meeting is talked of in the Plaza, to show the Governor. At Paysandu a quarantine hospital has been opened on one of the Islands, where passengers can at least have a roof to shelter them.

We read in the latest army correspondence of a famous cure effected by Messrs Torres & Barton "Anti-colerico." This agreeable mixture has been introduced into the Argentine cavalry hospital after every other preparation had failed, its effect was magical on the unfortunate sufferers to whom it was administered by the able practitioner Dr. Faiber, in small doses every five or ten minutes, varying in strength and frequently according to the more or less dejected state of the patient. 'It is probable,' continues the writer, 'that ere long this salutary remedy will be exclusively used in the allied hospitals.'

Dr. Drago, we are happy to say, is much better.

The mortality amongst the peones in the Custom House has been severe, thirty-seven having died within the last few days.

Mr. Gay, the new engineer of the Gas Works, has arrived. This gentleman has had a lengthened experience in gas houses in England and will be a valuable acquisition for the company.

The steamer Amy, Capt. Batty, our old friend of the Cordova, has arrived in Montevideo. We salute our friend on his return to the River Plate. The Amy is a splendid steamer, and the fastest in the Plate.

Friday night being the Feast of Santa Lucia, there was a grand 'facion in the Calle Larga; bonfires kept up until after midnight, and a powerful display of fireworks, rockets, &c. The quintas along that pleasant road are now crowded, and not a house to be got for love or money. The quintas formerly belonging to Sr. Segovia has been sold to Sr. Tejo, who is now about to reside there.

A new paper is to be established in Rosario, to be called the "Federal." The principal editor is Mr. Carlos Paz.

The Municipality of this city was to have had daily sittings in view of the present state of the public health; but it seems that there have been rather fewer meetings than usual. It is gratifying to find that the Provincial Governor has come to the rescue, and that the days of that mockery of a city Corporation are now numbered. We shall be glad to find ourselves in the hands of younger and more intelligent Governors, for in point of activity and advancement in ideas, there are few more creditable Governments than that of the Province of B. Ayres: it is far a-head of the National authorities.

We learn from Rosario that the proposed station of the Central Railway will be an architectural ornament, without rival, in South America. The Government has generously granted a fine piece of land for the site. The traffic returns of the line for the week ending December 1st, were \$9,450 a. We understand that the returns are regularly augmenting, and the prospects of the line very satisfactory.

An Italian vessel is aground abreast of Colonia. We have been informed by a nautical authority that the reef or rock on which she struck is not marked in the charts.

On the 4th inst., about 200 Indians made their appearance at the puesto of a Frenchman, in the partido de Lincoln, about nine leagues west of Junin. They besieged the Frenchman and four Basques that night and all next day, and retired, taking eight horses from him. He had besides over three thousand sheep, which they did not disturb. On the 5th, the Fortin Chiquilof fired an alarm of three guns, and sent a party in pursuit, who encountered and drove the 'Malones' off. The officer in command at Chiquilof, some months back, with a handful of men, rescued 1,200 head of horned cattle, which a large party of Indians were driving off. The forces now in Junin are about 400 men, which should be advanced to Chiquilof, and fortines should be established further out to protect valuable estancias there beyond the line of frontiers.

A river pilot, Mr. Parks, has informed us that six miles north-west of the Point Indio lightship the wreck of a vessel has been seen floating up the river. It was not ascertained whether the wreck consisted of the whole or part of the hull, as only some of the spars were visible.

We lately published in this paper a cleverly-written article on "Some Signboards in Buenos Ayres." The author overlooked the following specimen of English, at 335 Calle Florida:—

"Fabric of Ginger Beer.

"This fabric has been bought lately of Mr Augustin Bartin (native of England) who sold it on account of his illness to Mr J Sarnuignet who has made this refreshment as well as it was made before with the guarantee of Sole manufacturer of Ginger Beer of first quality.—J Sarnuignet."

It is difficult to gather any official information as to the health of the city, but we have been informed on good authority that cases of cholera have considerably diminished during the last two days; and medical men have hopes that with a continuation of comparatively cool weather the epidemic may disappear. Nevertheless we have several fatal cases to record, and we recommend every possible precaution within the reach of private individuals. Strong public measures will no doubt soon be resorted to, when the question between the Government and the Municipality is arranged. We advise our camp readers to remain in the country until the sickness passes over.

The Captain of the steamer Estrella has, it appears, been guilty not only of the breach of quarantine regulations but of barbarously insisting on the disembarkation of a cholera patient, who has since died at the Tigre. We have as yet heard no defence of his conduct, and if the published accounts are correct he cannot expect sympathy in any punishment he may receive

at the hands of the authorities. He has very properly been placed under arrest.

The steamers Sylph and Ohacabuco have arrived from Itapiru but bring no news of importance from the seat of war.

We hear from a well-known broker, who deals principally in lands and farm stock, that there is every prospect of a rise in the value of sheep. It is thought they have now reached their lowest price. On account of the late depression in value, a demand is springing up; and our informant thinks he could sell as many as 1,000 daily, at prices much above late quotations. He sold yesterday 700 head of cattle at \$90.

General Arredondo has resigned his post as second in command of the forces in the interior provinces. He has retired to Mendoza to take the benefit of the warm baths; but on receipt of the order sent to him by the National Government he will probably leave for this city. General Martinez, who has succeeded to General Panero as Commander-in-Chief in the interior has arrived at Cordova.

The Montevidean Government by decree has closed the port against Buenos Ayres. Port closed and specie payments stopped. What a pleasant state of things?

The known number of deaths by small-pox in Matto Grosso, up to 26th September last, was 3168, of which 2200 were in Cuyabá alone.

A list of casualties occasioned by the late storm has been published by our evening contemporary the Pueblo. We congratulate that journal on its attempt at correct daily reporting, and the introduction into this country of the useful industry of penny-a-lining. The list of accidents embraces the whole area of the city, but the damage which has occurred is chiefly confined to the lamp posts and water pipes. One person, of color, seems to have had an arm broken by the falling of a door in calle Esmeralda, and two ladies fell off a high parapet in calle Tucuman during the intense darkness, but escaped without serious injury. Several little children went astray and some of them are already advertised as being found, and at the disposal of their parents. The late hurricane is however no exception to the proverbial rule, "that it is an ill wind that blows nobody any good." It has cleared the air, and much diminished one prevailing epidemic that is beyond the reach of medical aid, namely a feeling of squeamishness produced by fear.

Dr. Scrivener reports that as yet only one case of cholera has occurred at the Tigre. On Thursday the Doctor went, in company with Dr. Pinedo, to attend a young man who had just come down from Rosario and was lying dangerously ill on board the steamer. All that medical aid could effect was done, but all to no purpose, the poor fellow succumbed at half-past eight o'clock on Thursday night. Deceased, Adolfo Aguello, was a young man of fortune, twenty-three years of age, and came down to Buenos Ayres for a pleasure trip. As to the cases of cholera from Carapachay there is no foundation whatever for the alarm.

We have been informed that the Banco Hipotecario Nacional of Mr. Marcoartu already counts among its founders the following influential names:—General Urquiza, Don Francisco Balbin, President of the Provincial Bank of Buenos Ayres; Dr. Velez Sarsfield, and Don Juan Carranza, Directors of that bank; Don Ambrosio Lezica, Dr. Apolinario Benites, of J. P. Benites & Co.'s bank; Don Mariano Cabal, of the Commercial banks of Santa Fé and Corrientes; Don Marcelino Ugarte, Minister of Foreign Affairs in the National Government, and other names we have not space to mention. The consulting advocates of the bank are Dr. D. Rufino Elizalde and Dr. D. Roque Perez. The new bank, from what we hear, may be considered as formed. In due time its adaptability to present conditions in this country will be properly appreciated. In all countries, particularly in France and Belgium, where similar institutions have been established they have proved of immense service to the public and profitable to the shareholders. As Mr. Marcoartu's bank will issue its obligations, its domicile at present will nominally be in Rosario, but its functions will extend throughout the River Plate republics. We may mention that in the Province of Buenos Ayres alone the mortgage debts are estimated at 20 millions of patacons. If the bank should negotiate a fourth part of this sum, which is taken as a minimum and calculating on a profit of 1 per cent, it would involve a return of 25 per cent on the amount to be paid up on the first issue of shares. This amount being 20 per

cent on the nominal value of shares issued to the extent of 1 million patacons.

Señor Lafuente, the National Commissioner appointed to intervene in the affairs of Rioja, left on Thursday for Rosario on his way to that province. He is accompanied by Mr. O'Mar as secretary, and Mr. Marcelo Paz in no official character.

A new bank, called the Banco del Pueblo, is to be established in Montevideo. It is intended to supply a certain want, that of advancing small sums to the poorer classes and to retail dealers. The capital is only \$200,000. It will be, like the rest of the Montevidean banks, a bank of issue, and to the best of our belief its notes will be the eighth design to the kind engraved for Montevideo by the American Bank-Note Company. A few pessimists, and all who love orthodox English views on the currency question, look with alarm on this unlimited issue of bank paper in the neighbouring capital.

We welcomed a short time ago the appearance in the arena of the press of a new periodical published in San Juan, under the editorial guidance of a talented native of that province, D. Jose Maria Carril, called the "Voz de Cuyo." We remark with pleasure that this paper is the only one among all its provincial colleagues that devotes a portion of its columns to giving useful data on the commercial movements of the province of San Juan.

The following is taken from the Custom-house returns of San Juan and Jachal for the year 1866:—

Exports free of duty,	\$f.941,990
Imports free of duty,	\$f.15,639
Imports subject to duty,	198,057 213,696

Difference in favor of exports, 728,294
The duties collected in the same year amounted to, \$f.35,291
Stamps, 2,123
\$f.37,414

San Juan seems to have the balance of trade in the right way.

These figures however only give the traffic between Chile and San Juan, and do not include the trade with the Litoral and with the Northern Provinces of Tucuman, Salta and Catamarca, which is not inconsiderable but of which the particulars are not so easily obtained, as it does not go through the Custom-house.

Sr. Moreno, War Minister, has ordered the port captain to libel the steamer Estrella for violating the quarantine regulations. As we are not in possession of all the facts, we offer no opinion on the matter.

Mr. Hector Varela has not been permitted to forget that he is an Oriental by birth. From the moment the Arno anchored in the bay of Montevideo to the time of her departure on the following evening her distinguished passenger was the subject, we may almost say the victim of a continued ovation. On Tuesday evening Mr. Varela on landing was met by a concourse of political and personal friends who escorted him to the Oriental Hotel, which was thronged with visitors to his apartments until a late hour of the night. On the following morning his friends in Montevideo gave a grand banquet in his honor at the same hotel. General Flores, his two sons, the Ministers, Mr. McColl, Dr. Granel of Buenos Ayres, and all the leading personages in political circles, were present on the occasion. The banquet commenced at 11 a.m. A military band was in attendance in the patio of the hotel. The champagne flowed freely, and by degrees the guests grew more enthusiastic. Finally, the excitement reached that pitch that legal and political formalities were discarded, and General Flores was proclaimed on the spot the future President of the Republic. But the General was too old a soldier not to see that even at a private meeting of the kind such a proposition was a breach of etiquette, and he accordingly delivered his sentiments on the subject briefly, but very distinctly, and forthwith retired from the banquetting room. Independently of his views as to the unsuitableness of the proposal to the occasion, General Flores was understood to express the little ambition that now possessed him, of remaining at the head of public affairs. The President, after his retirement from the dining-room, was easily pacified by coffee and cigars, and by the good humour of the guests. This little matter which had for the moment ruffled the festivities was quite forgotten, when at 3 p.m. Mr. Hector Varela's carpet-bag was wheeled off with the rest of the impedimenta to the mole. Three boatloads of Oriental statesmen and worthies followed by the too-faithful band of music, formed a kind of Venetian procession to the Arno. The procession, including the

band, was invited on board, and the flow of champagne oratory, and music recommenced; but the inexorable ship bell soon cut short the speeches and the music. The procession re-embarked and the band politely attempted a variety of the *himno Inglez* as the Arno steamed away with Mr. Hector Varela and a few of his undemonstrative but friendly and admiring fellow-passengers.

The people in Montevideo have taken the most decided precautions against infection from Buenos Ayres. We received a letter yesterday, stating that the greatest alarm exists down there in consequence of the constant telegrams sent down about the cholera. The fact of the matter is, every one seems to stir in this matter save the authorities. On Tuesday night a street fire was kindled in the calle Cuyo, and last night over a dozen fires were lighted. Dr. Harris of New York, recommended white-wash, and we think his advice ought to be taken, as none had greater experience than that well known New York doctor. Although, happily up to the present, there is no cause for alarm; still we should all be on the alert, the city is filthy and neglected, the mortality is very slightly over the average, but the sickness in town from one cause or another is certainly on the increase, and the majority of the cases are of a diarrhoea or cholera nature, caused doubtless, by bad meat, stale vegetables or green fruits.

One of the Brazilian ironclads of the most diminutive size, about which our colleague the *Nacion* made such a fuss, has arrived at Montevideo. There are four others in construction. This little iron clad was towed into Montevideo by an American tow-boat from Rio. The length of this iron clad is about 45 feet, she carries only one turret gun, and draws four feet of water she was built at the Government Arsenal Rio, she is only about 24 inches over the water, carries 18 men, 10 being required to work the gun. She has a wooden house on top of the turret, surrounded with buoys, which was put up for the voyage and will be cut away before going into action.

Sr. Posadas, our active Postmaster-General, has given so many proofs of his anxiety to introduce useful reforms in the Department under his charge, that we confidently call his attention to a measure urgently demanded, and which, whilst conferring a very great boon upon the Buenos Ayres public, will eventually result in a considerable increase of the Post-office revenue: it is that letter-boxes should be established in various central points of the city for town delivery, as has been done in all great towns in Europe and in the United States, to the great advantage of all parties. At present, anybody wishing to send a note or a message a few squares off, must either take the trouble of walking through the sun to deliver it himself, or pay \$10 to a peon, neither of which alternatives is pleasing. We require a city delivery at least twice a day.

Some of the residents near the 'corrales,' or butchers' market, at the south end, complain, with very just cause, of the shocking Municipal neglect in not having them at once removed to the new site. The health of the neighbours should be consulted, and the 'corrales' at once removed out to their new ground.

On Friday the funeral obsequies of the late Dn. José O. Herrera, of Barracas, will take place at the College Church. It is expected that the attendance will be very large.

The Salteña Company's steamers it appears will henceforward ply direct between the Uruguay ports and Montevideo; this is caused by the port regulations down there respecting quarantine. The mooted change will be a very serious inconvenience for us all here, but we warn our friends against the griefs of quarantine in the river Uruguay, where the passengers are subjected to all the horrors of a three days incarceration on a miserable jungle island.

The French mail leaves to-day; she takes as usual a good list of passengers, heavy mails, but no gold.

The London steamer City of Buenos Ayres is due in Montevideo on Sunday; she will bring dates from London to the 17th with papers and telegrams from Falmouth to the 18th.

Yesterday we received a visit from Mr. Bankart, who has arrived down from the Cuzapiru gold mines; the samples of gold quartz which he takes to Montevideo will astonish our Oriental friends; in the few stones which he exhibited there are no less than 10 ounces of gold. He gives the most glowing account of the hidden wealth of the Cuzapiru mountains, and is about to start a joint stock company to work these magnificent mines. We have no doubt that he will succeed as the spirit of association is much

stronger in Montevideo than in this city, and joint stock companies are with facility started therefore for all legitimate industrial purposes.

As our readers will have seen, in our yesterday's telegraphic news, our distinguished colleague, Hector Varela, is among the passengers by the Arno. We were much gratified at the receipt of a special telegram from him, thanking us for our remarks on his great oratorical triumph at the Peace Congress of Geneva, and which he was so deservedly entitled to. We replied by the same means, and sent him in return an electric salute and a telegraphic embrace. Four days before leaving Paris, it appears that, in a conversation on the subject of the war between Spain and the Pacific Republics, a South American Colonel, whose name has not transpired, insulted, in the presence of Sr. Varela, the Governments of the Plata Republics, and more particularly General Florés, whom he accused of being a traitor, and of having been bought by Spanish gold. Hector Varela, who at Geneva took to task the man who had dared to calumniate his country, was in this instance equal to the occasion. His answer to the Colonel was a blow across his face, and a challenge ensued. In the duel, which was fought near the Maison Lafitte, Sr. Varela came out victorious, badly wounding his adversary in the left shoulder, and thus proving that his valour is not less than his eloquence when his country's reputation is at stake.

His excellency, Dr. Avellaneda, is matriculating at Mercedes. He was in town yesterday, but left with the evening train for his rural retreat, where he enjoys the *otium cum dignitate* of a literary man. We hear his predecessor, with his charming spouse, is bound for Montevideo.

The Brazilian naval railway through the Grand Chaco is now complete and working away with great success. The ironclads are thus partly rescued from their ugly situation between two forts, and as long as they have this sure and speedy medium of communication they will not be obliged to force the passage up or down, but Lopez's strange movements of late, have given rise to much anxiety, and it will take a large force to guard the line, or else should it fall into the hands of the enemy it may prove a most disastrous business for the contractors.

On Thursday Sr. Peña, whose extraordinary letters to Lopez, his nephew, brought him into notice, died. Deceased was well known in this city, and we regret to hear leaves a family unprovided for. He was many years in prison, owing to a decree of Francia, during which time he made himself proficient in Latin.

The parties interested in mining operations in this republic, presented a petition yesterday to the National Government praying that the 6 per cent. export duty on copper and minerals should be rescinded. We have great pleasure in stating that the petition was received by the Vice-President and Ministers with every consideration, and that there is some hope that the tax will be temporarily suspended until the meeting of Congress when the legislation of the year in this respect will be reconsidered. It is to us astonishing how the Deputies for the mineral producing provinces could have passed over this tax without protest. It appears more like a clerical error in the reforming of the old clause in regard to the export of metals and minerals than a serious measure on the part of the Government who must have been well aware that the copper industry had been struggling for existence for 12 years against the difficulties and expenses common to mining productions in distant and slenderly peopled regions. Even had the industry been prosperous a miserable return to the revenue of seven or eight thousand patacons per annum would have been a small advantage to compensate for the risk to the mining interest it should have been the duty of the Government to foment. As it is, with an export tax of 6 per cent. the revenue will derive no benefit at all, and the industry will be destroyed.

The various direct lines of steamers between this port and Europe, will have a powerful rival in the new Pacific line, the ships of which call at Montevideo and will arrive there from England in 23 days. From what passengers by the packet-report, the new company will soon be in working order.

The University examinations are about closing. On the whole, this year's exhibition has been somewhat inferior, but this is explained, by the appearance of the cholera at the beginning of term, and the subsequent late matriculation of the students.

THE "STANDARD" ABROAD.

No. V.

FIRST IMPRESSIONS OF LISBON.

General appearance of the city: the Opera House and Royal Family.

Lisbon, October 31.
On Tuesday morning, after a pleasant voyage of seven days from St. Vincent's, and thirty from the River Plate, we sighted the Rock of Lisbon. Before reaching the mouth of the Tagus, we could perceive the current of its waters, of a dark yellow colour, here mingling with the ocean. Crossing the bar, we got a distant view of Belem and the outskirts of Lisbon, the hills around being covered with a multitude of windmills. On the right is seen a massive building, the Lazzaretto; on the left is Fort Julian, a relic of the Moorish epoch. Abreast of Belem we were hailed by the port officials; they came alongside, asked how many passengers we had, whether we had a clean bill of health, and whether we had persons of distinction aboard? The purser having answered these queries, we were allowed to proceed. The panorama of the city became every moment more attractive: a crowd of steamers, war-vessels and shipping, lined the quays. It was noon when we cast anchor, and presently a royal salute was fired from Fort St. George, above the city, in honour of the birthday of Don Fernando, the King's father. The Portuguese officials are very slow, and it was two p.m. before they had examined and returned us our passports. We then got a boat and landed at the Custom-house, where our luggage was duly examined.

Few cities surpass Lisbon in the first view presented to the traveller as he enters the Ferreyro do Paço, or Black-horse Square. The streets of the new town are handsome and spacious, with massive piles of building in regular blocks of about a hundred yards square; the houses are six or seven stories high, and all built of stone. The three principal streets, Rua Aurea, Rua Augusta, and Rua da Frata, run parallel and may rank among the finest thoroughfares in Europe. This was the scene of the earthquake of 1755, when most of the old town, with 40,000 inhabitants, was destroyed. The Marquis de Pombal rebuilt the city. He was minister to King Jose I., whose equestrian statue gives name to the Plaza, and the effigy of the minister is seen in a bronze medallion on the pedestal. The east and west sides of the Plaza are occupied by public departments. The south is bounded by the river, and on the north a triumphal arch gives access to the city.

Englishmen usually stop at the Hotel Braganza, which surmounts one of the seven hills of the city, and is situated close to the Opera-house, in the aristocratic quarter. Before dinner we rambled down the Rua do Carmo, bought Bradshaw's guide and a Portuguese hand-book, and visited the Rocio. This square terminates the lower town built by Pombal, and is flanked on two sides by the Dóna Maria theatre and St. Domingo Church. In the centre a monument is being erected to Don Pedro I., who abdicated the throne of Brazil to return to the mother country. In public monuments, plazas, fountains, &c., the city abounds. It may give some idea of Lisbon to say that it comprises 355 streets, 281 travessas or causeways, 12 plazas, 52 plazuelas, 5 public parks, 6 theatres, 200 churches, and 36 public fountains.

I have seen many of the large towns of England, France, and Italy, but remember none to surpass Lisbon in cleanliness, and few in beauty of position and construction. It contains over 300,000 inhabitants, and enjoys a privileged climate. The Portuguese pretend it was founded by a grandson of Abraham, or else by Ulysses: it was called Ulysses before the time of Cæsar, who gave it the name Felicitas Julia. Tradition also says that the mother of Hannibal was from Lisbon. It was the seat of three Saracen dynasties, and finally recovered to Christendom by Don Alfonso in 1147. The damage done by the earthquake of 1755 was estimated at £20,000,000 sterling; yet the city was completely rebuilt in less than 20 years.

At sundown, when the church-bells rang the "Aminas," I was much struck with their rich musical sound; presently they rang out a very pretty tune, with all the precision of a full-toned piano. It was in honor of Don Fernando's birth-day, and the public buildings were also illuminated.

The opera of "Faust" was advertised, and we repaired to the San Carlos: in the vestibule is a fresco representing the fall of Phaeton. The

Opera-house is much smaller than the Colon, but richer in decoration, and infinitely superior in the acoustic arrangements. The house was not full: the galaxy of fashion and beauty of the Portuguese capital was nowise comparable with what I was accustomed to see in Buenos Ayres or Montevideo; and yet it was a "command" night. At eight o'clock, the King and Queen entered one of the side-boxes, accompanied by Don Fernando and the Infant, Don Augustin.

King Louis II. is 29 years old, but looks much younger. He has a frank and intelligent look, is fair-complexioned, and wears only a moustache; he is barely 5ft. 6in. in height, and inclines to corpulency. He is surnamed "The Popular," and seems on an excellent footing with his subjects.

Queen Maria Pia, daughter of King Victor Emmanuel, is a fair, flaxen, sylph-like girl of 20 summers, and already the mother of two children. Her countenance is rather expressive than handsome: she wore a *parure* of brilliants.

Don Fernando, the King's father, and also enjoying the title of Majesty, has just completed his 51st year. He is of the Saxe-Coburg family, but as dark as any Spaniard, tall and commanding in figure, and almost austere in aspect. He takes no part in State affairs, but devotes his time to the fine arts.

Don Augustin, younger brother to the King, is in his 20th year, a full-grown boy, bearing a strong resemblance to his father, and more animated than his brother.

The whole house rose when the Royal party entered the box, their Majesties bowing in acknowledgement. The Portuguese anthem was played by a brilliant orchestra, and then the opera began: it was worth while coming from Buenos Ayres, if only to see and hear "Faust" given in such splendid style. The decorations were beautiful, but the chorus (of over 200 voices) was quite unvalued; yet there was little or no applause. I remarked that ladies and gentlemen sat together in all parts of the house, as in England. Between the acts we were talking (Don José Pedro Varela and I) about the Colon and Solis Theatres, when a gentleman in front of us turned round and said, "Bless my eyes! are you from the River Plate also; and how have you left the people there?" The gentleman in question has been travelling for six months with his wife and daughter all over Europe, and returns by next mail. He kindly takes out some terra-cotta figures, that I send for the *Standard* museum, representing Portuguese costumes.

My next day in Lisbon was taken up with an excursion to Cintra, which calls for a separate chapter.

THE FUNERAL OF O'DONNELL.

No. VI.

Madrid, Sunday Morning, Nov. 10.

The whole of Madrid has turned out to pay the last sad honors to one of the greatest warriors and statesmen that ever led the Spanish armies or directed the councils of the Peninsula. While I write the minute guns boom at intervals, and from my window, in the Puerta del Sol, I can see the long array of regiments of horse and foot proceeding to the Church of San José, where the body of the illustrious Hispano-Irish soldier is lying in state. The sun shines gaily on the burnished helmets and glittering coats of mail of dragoons and cuirassiers, on the brilliant uniforms of the Halberdiers of the Guard, the Chasseurs, the Lancers, and the Infantes de la Reyna, while the artillery battalions, with a long file of field pieces, wind up the martial cortege. Finer troops I have never seen, with their gallant bearing and stalwart physique: these are the same legions that O'Donnell commanded in his successful campaign in Morocco; and to his genius is also due the remodelling of the Spanish army. The flag of the *Cid Campeado*, of Gonsalo de Cordoba, and so many other great captains, mourns to-day the loss of the latest and not the least of its victorious Generals.

O'Donnell died on Tuesday evening at Biarritz, and the news was known by telegraph almost instantaneously: it circulated at once through the theatres and coffee-houses, and was received with universal sentiments of regret. Only last week rumors were current of a new Ministry, to be formed under his Presidency, and his illness was a brief one, although he had long suffered from the effects of his African campaign. Some say he died of lung disease (pulmonia) of which his father died at the same age—59 years; while another account says it was violent colic.

In his dying moments, like Napoleon, he raved of armies on the tented field; and when breathing his last, in the arms of his wife, the name of "Spain" was on his lips.

The body was expected here on Thursday, but a delay was necessarily caused by the embalming. Meantime the Queen issued orders for extraordinary honors to be paid to the remains, 'en route' for the capital: a commission was formed of several distinguished persons, including Messrs. O'Shea, Saavedra, O'Lawler, Medina, &c., who proceeded to Biarritz to receive the body. The Marshal's only daughter, who is married to a Spanish Marquis, reached Biarritz a few hours too late to receive her father's benediction. The widow, Duchess of Tetuan, arrived by the train on Friday morning, and all the nobility of the city paid her visits of condolence: the Queen also wrote to her sympathising with her loss. The city journals were unanimous in forgetting political resentments, and deploring the loss of so illustrious a personage.

On Saturday morning a "chappelle ardente" was fitted up in the Church of San José, a catalfalque, surmounted with a cloth of black velvet and gilt armorial bearings occupying the central nave. This was, however, subsequently removed when it was known that the Marshal had expressly desired that his body should lie on the floor of the church, and that the funeral should be with as little pomp as possible.

At ten o'clock the body arrived at the northern terminus, where a few detachments of the military were in waiting, and the carriages of the nobles of Madrid. The coffin was placed on a hearse, drawn by four horses.

The procession passed through the Puerta del Sol and other principal streets. There was no music, in obedience to the wishes of deceased, and the beat of a muffled drum alone announced the approach of the 'cortege.' A dozen gentlemen carried the coffin up the church steps, and placed it in a kind of ante-chamber off the porch, where it lay in state until to-day.

I went this morning at an early hour, but found great difficulty in getting in, such was the throng of people. The face was only covered with a glass, and the features were very discernible: the face was as white as paper, but smooth; the moustache and imperial 'muy poblado,' and snow white. The coffin was about 6½ feet long.

The funeral is just over; it was one of the grandest displays that can be imagined. At half-past 11 o'clock we proceeded to the San Jose church, or rather in that direction. The Calle Alcalá, one of the finest streets in Europe, was crowded with thousands of citizens and soldiers, and it was impossible to get near the church. Far as the eye could reach, beyond the Prado, a dense mass of people swayed to and fro, while the glittering lines of bayonets and dazzling uniforms enlivened the scene. Such a profusion of gold lace, stars and crosses, and all the "pomp and circumstance" of officers 'en grande tenue,' was certainly never before seen in the world. The uniforms were quite gorgeous, and in every possible variety. Nor was the splendor of the equipages less remarkable: the carriages of the native nobility and foreign ambassadors could not be surpassed for grandeur and elegance.

The grand Mass for the Dead began at 12 o'clock; and as we could not assist at it we proceeded down the Calle Alcalá to go and visit the Atocha chapel, or royal mausoleum, where the remains were to be temporarily deposited. In the Calle Alcalá I calculate that there must have been over 30,000 persons; this was far exceeded by the Prado; fancy a Boulevard 100 yards wide and two miles long, teeming with people of every rank and age. It seemed as if the whole of Spain had made a rendezvous here: many of the provincials wore their peculiar costumes, and I saw a number of pretty girls among the 'bourgeoise.' Troops lined the whole length of the Prado, as also the Paseo de Delicias; close to the chapel of Atocha. The sun was fiercely hot, yet the citizens seemed unconscious of it, and only intent on the pageant. When we reached the Atocha chapel we could not get admission here either. We ascended the hill just overlooking the Paseo, to wait for the procession, and remained for an hour among the crowd exposed to the scorching sunbeams.

At half-past one o'clock a salvo of artillery announced that the procession left the church, and a few minutes later the bugles of the advanced pickets were heard. Presently some outriders appeared, dressed in dark green, and a body of 200 dragoons

followed. Then came an infantry regiment, preceded by its band: the men walked with measured tread, 30 abreast; the regimental flag was furled, and the drums muffled. Another regiment of foot, and then some horse artillery, with 4 guns. At this point every head was uncogered, and the coffin appeared, the cortege being in this form:—

O'Donnell's two war-horses, led by grooms.

Acolytes with cross and candles.

Bishop and clergy in canonicals.

Eight black horses drawing gun-carriage.

THE COFFIN

with sword and hat of deceased.

Chief mourners—Marshal Narvaz,

primo minister; Marshal Serrano, Duke

La Torre, president of privy-council;

Duke of Baylen, Generals Novallas,

Vega and Burnaga, and the Marquis

Charles O'Donnell.

Five hundred civil and military

civilians.

Foreign Ambassadors and suite.

O'Brien carrying tape.

O'Brien carrying tape.

Then came General Pavin, Governor of Madrid, and staff, followed by a general escort. When the head of the procession reached the Atocha a salute of 12 guns was fired from the hill where we stood. The clergy chanted the hymns for the dead. The war-horses were bays, all clothed in erape, with the arms of a ducal coronet, and the letters in gold, D. T. (Duke of Tetuan). The cortege was some miles in length, of chasseurs, carabineers, and lancers still came on, the rear-guard being composed of 48 field pieces, drawn by horse artillery (mounted on very fine mules). Then came 200 brilliant equipages, and thousands of citizens. The troops must have numbered ten thousand and the spectators over a hundred thousand. The last salute has been fired over the grave of Leopold O'Donnell; the troops are marching home, to lively airs of music. The Duke is succeeded by Charles O'Donnell, his nephew.

To-morrow I leave Madrid. I went to Toledo last week. I enclose an old Moorish com. I posted a large batch of correspondence to you last night to Knowles, Lisbon.

THE BEAUTIES OF CINTRA

No. VII.

The Moorish remains, ruins of *Tis Penas*, chateau of *Don Fernando*.

Lisbon, Nov. 1st.

In the Paso de Terreiro we hired a coach for six dollars for the day, and started for Cintra: these little phaetons with seats for two persons are are light and commodious. Passing the Paseo Publico we traverse a portion of the old city and its suburbs: the first object of interest is the quinta Baron Quintalla, with the elegant gardens. Country-houses now succeed one another, and the road is lined with trees, through which we get glimpses of gardens, and windmills on the adjacent high grounds.

About 5 miles from the city we were brought for some minutes to a standstill by a long train of 40 pair of oxen drawing a huge block of marble, intended for one of the many public monuments in course of construction. Before reaching the village of Queluz, where there is a royal palace, we passed under the aqueduct: this noble work is ten miles long, and stood the earthquake of 1755, unhurt. The road, which is excellent the whole way, now begins to ascend and you see the Tagus, and right ahead the castled Craig of Cintra. The Marquis de Vienna has some beautiful gardens, just as we enter the village of San Pedro; and now we make a detour by the slope of the mountain: the view from here is charming. The Duke de Saldanha's villa overlooks Cintra, and the plain below stretches away to the Mafra, while above us rises the precipitous mountain with the old Moorish battlements running zig-zag and in ruins. After three hours journeying we reached Cintra, the distance being about 16 miles: the village lies at the foot of the mountain; the streets are steep and narrow and there are two or three good hotels.

We drove into the little plaza and on alighting were accosted by two or three donkey-drivers: our first thought, however was to visit the castle, which is the great feature of the place and opens on the plaza. We entered by a massive gateway, where a sentinel was on guard. In the courtyard a Moorish fountain still plays, and the arabesques on the windows confirm the tradition that it was the Alhambra of the Moors of Portugal: the building is very irregular, having been added to by successive Kings down to the 17th century. The place is now unoccupied, and the echo of our footfall as we accompanied the porter sounded dimly through the halls

and corridors. The Sala de Audiencia is a vaulted-chamber a hundred feet long, and next it is a small room with a throne of painted tiles, of melancholy interest: there sat the King Sebastian when he assembled the nobles 1578 previous to his departure for the war in Barbary; his fate was never known, and it is a saying that the Portuguese still expect his return. The guide now takes us through a succession of winding passages and fantastic-looking apartments: the ceilings are curiously carved and painted after Oriental fashion. In a room of modern style and poor dimensions is shown a magnificent chimney-piece, the work of Michel Angelo and a present from Leo the Tenth to King Manuel. Next come we to the Hall of Swallows, so called from the ceiling being painted with a number of these birds, each having a rose in its claw, and a ribbon in its bill with the motto *por bem* the origin of this is that the king was here surprised by his wife, Philippa of Lancaster at the feet of a maid of honor, to whom he was presenting a rose, and his Majesty by way of apology said "E-por bem" (it is all for the best), whereupon the Queen next day had the ceiling newly painted in this manner, while the King was out at the chase. The chapel is small and unpretending, and still preserves its sacred ornaments.

We next proceed to a little room that looks out on the hill-side: this was the dungeon of Alphonsus the 6th during eight years that he was kept prisoner by his brother; the tiles are much worn on one side of the room, where the dethroned king used to pace up and down: a little cell with an iron grating overlooks the chapel, and here he was allowed to attend Mass: one day at the conclusion of the sacred rites he was found dead, kneeling at the grating. The old Moorish banquet-room is a round empty apartment only remarkable for a fountain in the middle. The Sala de Armas is lofty, and derives its name from the armorial escutcheons of the 74 noble families of Portugal, two of which have been defaced for high treason: it is now used as a billiard-room, although the King never resides here.

The kitchen is really surprising and recalls the legends of the Arabian nights: two colossal chimneys, in the form of a sugar-loaf, rise to a height of a hundred feet, the diameter at the ceiling being some 30 feet; there is a great echo, and the novelty of the structure makes you doubt whether the Moors intended them merely for kitchen chimneys. We are next shown a drawing-room with a peculiar ornament: this is an ivory tower over ten feet high, consisting of 13 stories, a present from a Chinese Emperor to one of the recent Portuguese monarchs. Although seven hundred years have elapsed since the expulsion of the Moorish caliphs we still see in excellent preservation their bathroom: the guide turns a cock, and water gushes out from the walls of the apartment as well as from the marble figures in the adjacent 'patio.' From the terrace we obtain a fine view of the country around; yonder is a collection of handsome and unfinished houses, begun by a Frenchman and entitled Villa Stephanie in honor of the late ill-fated Queen of Portugal: the Frenchmen also projected a railway to Lisbon, but suddenly came short of funds, and so it ended.

Donkeys are hired at half-a-dollar to ascend the mountain: they are sure-footed beasts, and although the road is steep even ladies venture up with safety. Higher and higher, at each bend of the road, the view of the plain below becomes every moment more charming, and we pass two English cottages called Victoria and Albert villas, at one of which the British Secretary of Legation usually resides. Formerly it was a hard job to ascend to Las Penas of the Moorish ruins even on foot, but Don Fernando caused the present road to be made, at great labor and outlay. We see nothing of the brigands' how, of whom Byron speaks as in his time; but, some of the melancholy stone crosses still remain.

Alighting at the entrance to the old Moorish battlements we are accompanied by one of the gardeners, who shows us first a ruined watch-tower, commanding a beautiful panorama in the distance are the convent towers of historic Mafra, and close at our feet is the Setiaes quinta where the convention of Cintra was signed by Wellington and Junot. Yonder we see the ruined hermitage of Monserrat now belonging to a Mr. Beakford. We continue our route along the Moslem battlements and come to a mosque or chapel, where the *mihrab* points out some very ancient frescoes close to the gate is a monument erected

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445, 447, 449, 451, 453, 455, 457, 459, 461, 463, 465, 467, 469, 471, 473, 475, 477, 479, 481, 483, 485, 487, 489, 491, 493, 495, 497, 499, 501, 503, 505, 507, 509, 511, 513, 515, 517, 519, 521, 523, 525, 527, 529, 531, 533, 535, 537, 539, 541, 543, 545, 547, 549, 551, 553, 555, 557, 559, 561, 563, 565, 567, 569, 571, 573, 575, 577, 579, 581, 583, 585, 587, 589, 591, 593, 595, 597, 599, 601, 603, 605, 607, 609, 611, 613, 615, 617, 619, 621, 623, 625, 627, 629, 631, 633, 635, 637, 639, 641, 643, 645, 647, 649, 651, 653, 655, 657, 659, 661, 663, 665, 667, 669, 671, 673, 675, 677, 679, 681, 683, 685, 687, 689, 691, 693, 695, 697, 699, 701, 703, 705, 707, 709, 711, 713, 715, 717, 719, 721, 723, 725, 727, 729, 731, 733, 735, 737, 739, 741, 743, 745, 747, 749, 751, 753, 755, 757, 759, 761, 763, 765, 767, 769, 771, 773, 775, 777, 779, 781, 783, 785, 787, 789, 791, 793, 795, 797, 799, 801, 803, 805, 807, 809, 811, 813, 815, 817, 819, 821, 823, 825, 827, 829, 831, 833, 835, 837, 839, 841, 843, 845, 847, 849, 851, 853, 855, 857, 859, 861, 863, 865, 867, 869, 871, 873, 875, 877, 879, 881, 883, 885, 887, 889, 891, 893, 895, 897, 899, 901, 903, 905, 907, 909, 911, 913, 915, 917, 919, 921, 923, 925, 927, 929, 931, 933, 935, 937, 939, 941, 943, 945, 947, 949, 951, 953, 955, 957, 959, 961, 963, 965, 967, 969, 971, 973, 975, 977, 979, 981, 983, 985, 987, 989, 991, 993, 995, 997, 999, 1001, 1003, 1005, 1007, 1009, 1011, 1013, 1015, 1017, 1019, 1021, 1023, 1025, 1027, 1029, 1031, 1033, 1035, 1037, 1039, 1041, 1043, 1045, 1047, 1049, 1051, 1053, 1055, 1057, 1059, 1061, 1063, 1065, 1067, 1069, 1071, 1073, 1075, 1077, 1079, 1081, 1083, 1085, 1087, 1089, 1091, 1093, 1095, 1097, 1099, 1101, 1103, 1105, 1107, 1109, 1111, 1113, 1115, 1117, 1119, 1121, 1123, 1125, 1127, 1129, 1131, 1133, 1135, 1137, 1139, 1141, 1143, 1145, 1147, 1149, 1151, 1153, 1155, 1157, 1159, 1161, 1163, 1165, 1167, 1169, 1171, 1173, 1175, 1177, 1179, 1181, 1183, 1185, 1187, 1189, 1191, 1193, 1195, 1197, 1199, 1201, 1203, 1205, 1207, 1209, 1211, 1213, 1215, 1217, 1219, 1221, 1223, 1225, 1227, 1229, 1231, 1233, 1235, 1237, 1239, 1241, 1243, 1245, 1247, 1249, 1251, 1253, 1255, 1257, 1259, 1261, 1263, 1265, 1267, 1269, 1271, 1273, 1275, 1277, 1279, 1281, 1283, 1285, 1287, 1289, 1291, 1293, 1295, 1297, 1299, 1301, 1303, 1305, 1307, 1309, 1311, 1313, 1315, 1317, 1319, 1321, 1323, 1325, 1327, 1329, 1331, 1333, 1335, 1337, 1339, 1341, 1343, 1345, 1347, 1349, 1351, 1353, 1355, 1357, 1359, 1361, 1363, 1365, 1367, 1369, 1371, 1373, 1375, 1377, 1379, 1381, 1383, 1385, 1387, 1389, 1391, 1393, 1395, 1397, 1399, 1401, 1403, 1405, 1407, 1409, 1411, 1413, 1415, 1417, 1419, 1421, 1423, 1425, 1427, 1429, 1431, 1433, 1435, 1437, 1439, 1441, 1443, 1445, 1447, 1449, 1451, 1453, 1455, 1457, 1459, 1461, 1463, 1465, 1467, 1469, 1471, 1473, 1475, 1477, 1479, 1481, 1483, 1485, 1487, 1489, 1491, 1493, 1495, 1497, 1499, 1501, 1503, 1505, 1507, 1509, 1511, 1513, 1515, 1517, 1519, 1521, 1523, 1525, 1527, 1529, 1531, 1533, 1535, 1537, 1539, 1541, 1543, 1545, 1547, 1549, 1551, 1553, 1555, 1557, 1559, 1561, 1563, 1565, 1567, 1569, 1571, 1573, 1575, 1577, 1579, 1581, 1583, 1585, 1587, 1589, 1591, 1593, 1595, 1597, 1599, 1601, 1603, 1605, 1607, 1609, 1611, 1613, 1615, 1617, 1619, 1621, 1623, 1625, 1627, 1629, 1631, 1633, 1635, 1637, 1639, 1641, 1643, 1645, 1647, 1649, 1651, 1653, 1655, 1657, 1659, 1661, 1663, 1665, 1667, 1669, 1671, 1673, 1675, 1677, 1679, 1681, 1683, 1685, 1687, 1689, 1691, 1693, 1695, 1697, 1699, 1701, 1703, 1705, 1707, 1709, 1711, 1713, 1715, 1717, 1719, 1721, 1723, 1725, 1727, 1729, 1731, 1733, 1735, 1737, 1739, 1741, 1743, 1745, 1747, 1749, 1751, 1753, 1755, 1757, 1759, 1761, 1763, 1765, 1767, 1769, 1771, 1773, 1775, 1777, 1779, 1781, 1783, 1785, 1787, 1789, 1791, 1793, 1795, 1797, 1799, 1801, 1803, 1805, 1807, 1809, 1811, 1813, 1815, 1817, 1819, 1821, 1823, 1825, 1827, 1829, 1831, 1833, 1835, 1837, 1839, 1841, 1843, 1845, 1847, 1849, 1851, 1853, 1855, 1857, 1859, 1861, 1863, 1865, 1867, 1869, 1871, 1873, 1875, 1877, 1879, 1881, 1883, 1885, 1887, 1889, 1891, 1893, 1895, 1897, 1899, 1901, 1903, 1905, 1907, 1909, 1911, 1913, 1915, 1917, 1919, 1921, 1923, 1925, 1927, 1929, 1931, 1933, 1935, 1937, 1939, 1941, 1943, 1945, 1947, 1949, 1951, 1953, 1955, 1957, 1959, 1961, 1963, 1965, 1967, 1969, 1971, 1973, 1975, 1977, 1979, 1981, 1983, 1985, 1987, 1989, 1991, 1993, 1995, 1997, 1999, 2001, 2003, 2005, 2007, 2009, 2011, 2013, 2015, 2017, 2019, 2021, 2023, 2025, 2027, 2029, 2031, 2033, 2035, 2037, 2039, 2041, 2043, 2045, 2047, 2049, 2051, 2053, 2055, 2057, 2059, 2061, 2063, 2065, 2067, 2069, 2071, 2073, 2075, 2077, 2079, 2081, 2083, 2085, 2087, 2089, 2091, 2093, 2095, 2097, 2099, 2101, 2103, 2105, 2107, 2109, 2111, 2113, 2115, 2117, 2119, 2121, 2123, 2125, 2127, 2129, 2131, 2133, 2135, 2137, 2139, 2141, 2143, 2145, 2147, 2149, 2151, 2153, 2155, 2157, 2159, 2161, 2163, 2165, 2167, 2169, 2171, 2173, 2175, 2177, 2179, 2181, 2183, 2185, 2187, 2189, 2191, 2193, 2195, 2197, 2199, 2201, 2203, 2205, 2207, 2209, 2211, 2213, 2215, 2217, 2219, 2221, 2223, 2225, 2227, 2229, 2231, 2233, 2235, 2237, 2239, 2241, 2243, 2245, 2247, 2249, 2251, 2253, 2255, 2257, 2259, 2261, 2263, 2265, 2267, 2269, 2271, 2273, 2275, 2277, 2279, 2281, 2283, 2285, 2287, 2289, 2291, 2293, 2295, 2297, 2299, 2301, 2303, 2305, 2307, 2309, 2311, 2313, 2315, 2317, 2319, 2321, 2323, 2325, 2327, 2329, 2331, 2333, 2335, 2337, 2339, 2341, 2343, 2345, 2347, 2349, 2351, 2353, 2355, 2357, 2359, 2361, 2363, 2365, 2367, 2369, 2371, 2373, 2375, 2377, 2379, 2381, 2383, 2385, 2387, 2389, 2391, 2393, 2395, 2397, 2399, 2401, 2403, 2405, 2407, 2409, 2411, 2413, 2415, 2417, 2419, 2421, 2423, 2425, 2427, 2429, 2431, 2433, 2435, 2437, 2439, 2441, 2443, 2445, 2447, 2449, 2451, 2453, 2455, 2457, 2459, 2461, 2463, 2465, 2467, 2469, 2471, 2473, 2475, 2477, 2479, 2481, 2483, 2485, 2487, 2489, 2491, 2493, 2495, 2497, 2499, 2501, 2503, 2505, 2507, 2509, 2511, 2513, 2515, 2517, 2519, 2521, 2523, 2525, 2527, 2529, 2531, 2533, 2535, 2537, 2539, 2541, 2543, 2545, 2547, 2549, 2551, 2553, 2555, 2557, 2559, 2561, 2563, 2565, 2567, 2569, 2571, 2573, 2575, 2577, 2579, 2581, 2583, 2585, 2587, 2589, 2591, 2593, 2595, 2597, 2599, 2601, 2603, 2605, 2607, 2609, 2611, 2613, 2615, 2617, 2619, 2621, 2623, 2625, 2627, 2629, 2631, 2633, 2635, 2637, 2639, 2641, 2643, 2645, 2647, 2649, 2651, 2653, 2655, 2657, 2659, 2661, 2663, 2665, 2667, 2669, 2671, 2673, 2675, 2677, 2679, 2681, 2683, 2685, 2687, 2689, 2691, 2693, 2695, 2697, 2699, 2701, 2703, 2705, 2707, 2709, 2711, 2713, 2715, 2717, 2719, 2721, 2723, 2725, 2727, 2729, 2731, 2733, 2735, 2737, 2739, 2741, 2743, 2745, 2747, 2749, 2751, 2753, 2755, 2757, 2759, 2761, 2763, 2765, 2767, 2769, 2771, 2773, 2775, 2777, 2779, 2781