



NOTICE TO IMMIGRANTS.

On certain Steamships, contracted for by the Government, FREE PASSAGES are given to the emigrants...

THE COMMITTEE.

The Argentine Immigration Committee consists of five members...

LETTERS OF CREDIT ON SOUTH AMERICA.

The NATIONAL BANK IN LONDON, and its BRANCHES IN IRELAND issue LETTERS OF CREDIT...

LUMB, WANKLYN, AND CO.

10 Angel Court, Throgmorton-street, LONDON.

The Standard.

"Nil falli audeam nil veri non audeam dicere." Cicero.

MONDAY, MAY 15, 1871.

REVIEW FOR EUROPE.

Affairs in the Plate are at last brightening; the health of the city has so much improved that all the families are returning to town...

The opportune arrival of £250,000 in gold on account of the Argentine loan has had the most beneficial effect on the market...

The state of the Interior Provinces presents nothing calling for special remark, the country is happily at peace in every quarter...

and toward about points coming on the great highway of the cart...

plague, were doing a splendid business; by the returns for January which we copy from the London papers...

Now that city traffic has been renewed as before the plague, the various tramways are again doing a very remunerative business...

Immigration still continues on an average scale, and the Government has taken the most energetic measures to afford all new comers every accommodation...

The Transandine Telegraph is now completed to San Luis, and the Snow-cable across the Cordillera is being laid down...

The new Government railway to Lobos (60 miles) a branch of the Western, is now finished, and will probably be opened on the 25th inst...

City improvements are now the great topic of the day, and a Home Loan of 8 millions sterling is spoken of, to be taken up by the various house and property holders...

that sum would scarcely be adequate to do the work properly. Respecting the money market we have little to report...

Exchange on England, 51 5/4. Do. Antwerp, 5 30. 5/40. Do. Rio, nominal.

THE COMMERCIAL MEETING.

On the 5th the largest and most influential meeting ever held in Buenos Ayres took place at the Bolsa; the hall was crowded, and in even the very busiest and best of times we never recollect seeing a larger attendance...

Mr. Wehelly rose and said, that the committee of merchants had called this meeting for the purpose of requesting the government to define the exact nature of the 35 days 'feriados'...

1st. That we are bound to declare, and do hereby declare that a case of 'force majeure' has been established by the ravages and misfortunes caused by the unprecedented epidemic which has raged in this city since February last...

2nd. That said 'force majeure' must be considered as existing since the 10th day of April up to the day on which a *Te Deum* be sung at the termination of the pestilence...

3rd. That all the bills falling due within equal time to mature, the interest thereon up to the time of the bill's maturity being paid separately in cash, at the rate charged by private banks...

4th. That the debtors who do not settle their matured obligations within three days from that on which the *Te Deum* is sung (inclusive) forfeit by the fact the mutual protection which this resolution of the undersigned commercial houses establishes...

5th. That all contracts for purchase or sale entered into before the 10th of April, and which could not be carried out, shall be renewed on the first open day, and on the same conditions; but for those having a six months 'plazo' for payment, the suspension is to be divided between buyer and seller...

6th. That all the bills falling due within equal time to mature, the interest thereon up to the time of the bill's maturity being paid separately in cash, at the rate charged by private banks...

7th. That notes be addressed to the Provincial Government and the Bank informing them of these resolutions, and begging that their measures be taken in accordance, so as to modify the intensity of the existing commercial crisis...

8th. That the undersigned are bound by the above resolutions. Mr. Billinghurst rose and said, that as far as he could judge the propositions were simply impossible. We could only regard ourselves as in a shipwreck; to save the vessel it was necessary to make every sacrifice, and what could be enforced by law might be attained by fraternity...

Mr. Hector Varela came forward, and apologizing for intruding his opinion, not belonging to the mercantile body, he hoped they would listen to him. He said that to expect the government to take any action in private commercial transactions was inadvisable...

1st. That all commercial obligations contracted up to the 10th of April last, and represented by bills 'pagarés,' and other negotiable documents of credit, payable in the city of Buenos Ayres, shall be only considered as matured 35 days after their respective maturity...

ment could not, others that it could not; but clear it was that the government of a province, or a provincial chamber in a Confederate Republic, could pass no law which would affect the supreme law of the whole nation...

Mr. Wehelly replied to Mr. Varela by stating that the Committee had consulted some of the principal lawyers, and they were of opinion that the Government and Chambers could act.

Mr. Billinghurst thought that, after all, the measure proposed was not objectionable; it would help the situation. He was about to offer some further remarks, but as the President of the Meeting was occupied he would decline.

The Chairman apologized, and begged of Mr. Billinghurst to proceed. Mr. Billinghurst.—It is necessary for us to arrive at something; the proposal to consider the thirty-five days 'feriados' as nil in all bills, etc. matured or maturing is excellent.

Mr. Aring spoke to Mr. Macias's observations, and considered his views as surrounded by many and serious difficulties. Mr. Macias replied—he said that in considering the question, we had nothing whatever to do with the banks; the banks were right, they were the very day before the 'feria' they raised their rates of interest from 10 to 15 per cent...

The Chairman rose to explain—being connected with a bank, he felt the imputation. The banks, it is true, did raise the rate of interest, but if they did, they did it for self protection; there was no other course left to them, the situation was far too serious to be trifled with. He knew the real state of the banks, and he had no hesitation in saying that if there is a run on the banks on the 15th May, there is not a bank in the city able to stand; he made this assertion unhesitatingly...

Mr. Peréz de Cerro, regretted that he heard so much said about the constitution and the inability of the Government to do this or that. In presence of so awful a calamity he asked, legislators who forsake the city and Chambers that never could be assembled; look to-day at the position of Buenos Ayres, seven-eighths of its citizens out in the country living as best they could. What nonsense is talk of paying bills, and on the 15th May; all stuff—nor in the whole of the month of May, will a man be able to pay. Let the Government put the right names to things, let the Government in view of the terrible 'fuera mayor' do as the Government in Paris did, suspend everything. It was really heartrending to see the awful state of affairs, and still think that we were discussing such trifles. Did the constitution ever contemplate such a state of things as at present; he in his own limited sphere as a lawyer or 'procurador' knew the fallacy of talking about collecting anything at present, many of the people who owed him are dead, and their estates must be wound up. Here we are like a train being put in motion; let us imitate the locomotive, and move slowly, very slowly at first, adding wagon to wagon, and let the Government come forward in a proper spirit—publish a decree saving the situation. (Great cheers.)

The Chairman then put the following resolutions to the meeting, which were carried by a large majority—the meeting then dissolved. The undersigned having met in the Bolsa with the view of adopting a resolution in reference to the maturing of commercial bills, now running have agreed as follows:—

1st. That all commercial obligations contracted up to the 10th of April last, and represented by bills 'pagarés,' and other negotiable documents of credit, payable in the city of Buenos Ayres, shall be only considered as matured 35 days after their respective maturity...

2nd. That the committee composed of Messrs. M. Billinghurst, Don Antonio Terrero, and Don José F. Ledesma, undertake to procure the adherence of the banks to this resolution of the commercial body.

CITY IMPROVEMENTS.

Don Marques de Carvalho, one of the first doctors of Rio Janeiro, has published a most interesting article in the Rio papers on the fever in Buenos Ayres. As the opinion of this distinguished physician carries weight, and the improvements which he proposes are simple, it is every way desirable that the public of Buenos Ayres should be made acquainted with them.

The doctor says that for three and a half centuries the city of Buenos Ayres enjoyed the highest reputation for salubrity, until of late years, and in the great heat of summer, cholera morbus and yellow fever began to spread. These few cases were sent as a warning to the citizens to take proper precautions and adopt proper measures against the impending danger.

Contemporary history proves that yellow fever and cholera morbus are not indigenous to South America. Yellow fever was imported into Brazil towards the end of 1849 by a ship which sailed from New Orleans for California, and which on the voyage touched at Bahia and landed some passengers attacked with yellow fever. The fever at once spread in Bahia, and from there it was brought down to Rio Janeiro in the early part of January, 1850.

Twenty years after the same thing happened to Buenos Ayres. That the fever must have been carried to Buenos Ayres by the torrent of emigration which flows to that country, and imported at a time when the thermometer ranged under 36, or at a moment when the elements which favor epidemics were ripe. The health and vigor of the inhabitants of Buenos Ayres favored in a most extraordinary manner the development of the yellow fever.

If Buenos Ayres were impregnated with deleterious matter that would produce putrid miasmas, as is asserted by many men of science who have studied the origin of an epidemic that has spread such wide-spread disease or weak, it is certain that the yellow fever would not have produced such devastation as we lament to-day. These facts are proved by our own experience of the yellow fever in Rio in 1850, when the fever invariably attacked the strongest and most vigorous constitutions, and especially foreigners and persons who were not acclimatized.

It is essential, therefore, to bear in mind that yellow fever did not originate from the putrid gases of Buenos Ayres, or from the filthy condition of that city; it was imported in the lungs, the stomachs, the intestines, 'en fin,' in all the organs of the bodies of emigrant travellers who had been attacked by the disease. These produced the conflagration which has almost destroyed the most flourishing, most beautiful city of the Plate.

After so terrible a lesson it behoves all good Argentines to at once set about the most sweeping Hygienic reform, to adopt measures that will in future neutralize the effects of whatever poison may remain on, or be ever introduced into that city.

The first Hygienic measure should be the planting of trees in every street in the city, and gardens in every public square. The second, the disinfection of all hospitals, infirmaries or lazarettos, and also private houses by burning lime, and covering the floors with lime, with a thickness of at least two centimetres. The floors of private houses should be washed twice a week, and pasties burnt in the rooms, and camphor spread in the rooms that are the least damp.

Third, ashes or lime should be spread over all *vasura* deposits, and charcoal put into the wells and algebras, and all works necessitating excavations for the present suspended. All the water-cocks in the streets should be opened for two hours daily, and the water allowed to flow, and carry away everything.

By adopting these measures, particularly the planting of trees in the streets of the beautiful city of Buenos Ayres, the population may be quadrupled without danger, and the city notwithstanding enjoy the best and most vigorous public health.

In giving the foregoing remarks to our readers, we comply with a duty which has become incumbent on us all, namely, to labor night and day to keep before the authorities the urgent necessity of at once adopting measures of sanitary reform. The season for planting trees in this country is now at hand; let the Municipality order house owners under a heavy penalty to plant trees at a distance of 10 varas before their houses or walls, or property, and in six months the city of Buenos Ayres will wear an entirely new and improved aspect.

PLAGUE STATISTICS.

Yesterday we received from the Minister of the Interior, Don Luis V. Varela, a note informing us that, under date of May 4, 1871, the Argentine Government had ceased to subscribe for 200 pocket editions of the STANDARD, four daily papers, and six weeklies.

We attribute all this to the publication of our plague statistics; the loss to us is more moral than pecuniary, inasmuch as the Argentine consuls of any note have always been subscribers to the STANDARD. Our colleagues will now have one cause less for complaint; nevertheless the Argentine Government may always count on us as a warm supporter, whenever the true interests of the country are concerned.

To other and better hands it will doubtless confide the task of explaining to the European the advantages of this country as a field for emigration. We have done our best under the circumstances, and can do no more; every impartial reader will admit that the task was, the least to say, a difficult one.

Table with columns: Date, Month, Yellow Fever, Cholera, Total. Rows for January, February, March, April, May, June, July, August, September, October, November, December.

TEN YEARS!

On May-day of the year 1861 the STANDARD made its first appearance. The world has gone through many changes since then, and yet it seems but yesterday. It would interest our readers little if we were to call up the hopes and fears that attended our first venture in the world of literature. Neither would the public care for a recital of the struggles and difficulties that beset us at the outset. There are, however, some circumstances connected with the birth of our paper which may be important as chronological facts, or may serve to show the growth of English interests in this part of the world.

The British Packet was the first English paper established in South America (nearly 50 years ago), the next of any note being the Panama Star and Herald, but it was reserved for the STANDARD to claim the proud distinction of being the first English daily that the continent could boast of.

Our first issue was little larger than a letter size, but then our staff of operators consisted of one man and a boy, and the daily circulation was under 50 copies. In 1862 the size and circulation were doubled, but the growth of such enterprises in small communities is slow, and after 2 years we still found that our daily issue barely sufficed to pay for ink. Year after year we toiled on, till at last by dint of patient perseverance and steady confidence in the future our labours began to bear fruit. We burned the midnight oil, and consulted neither ease nor health, seeking above all to support and vindicate the interests of the foreign community, and to make truth and justice our guiding motive.

For the wrong that needs assistance, For the cause that lacks assistance, For the future in the distance, And the good that we may do.

In looking back through these 10 years we cannot say with the Cynic philosopher that we repent not a line we have ever written or a word we have ever spoken. Neither do we lay claim to any brilliant genius or transcendent talents, to rare civic virtues or great achievements. Whatever success or merit the STANDARD may have, in our opinion, the result of hard work and constant attention. It is the only paper in Buenos Ayres that has not changed editors during 10 years, and the same pen that wrote the programme of its first number is that which now traces these lines.

Have we fulfilled the promises we made the public in 1861? Have we done any service to our countrymen? Have we deserved the protection now so many years vouchsafed to us? These are questions that our readers can judge for themselves, but in our heart of hearts we cherish the conviction that we have honestly done our best. And although at times a conflict of opinions may bring upon us a passing censure from one or other of our readers we flatter ourselves never to have made an enemy, for the columns of the STANDARD are always open to the severest strictures upon our acts or ideas.

To hold the balance evenly in a community of so mixed a character as ours is not an easy task, and it is proverbially difficult to please everybody, yet, without prevarication of word or feeling, we have to be English with the English, German with the German, Irish with the Irish.

Our chief end and aim here is, to hasten those improvements, social, political, and material, which the wants of the people demand, and to call for with such imperious urgency, as to be met, as we are, from the angry turmoil of party politics we have always

devoted our energies and attention to matters of general interest for Buenos Ayres and the Republic. Is it vanity of our part; if we believe that our suggestions are more listened to by the authorities than the impassioned harangues of our colleagues? Many of the public buildings erected in late years contain in the foundation stone a copy of our paper. In like manner, too, if you enquire into many reforms of everyday life you will find some trace of our labors at the bottom.

Buenos Ayres at present boasts a dozen foreign newspapers, in 5 different languages, but when we launched the STANDARD we stood alone; all the rest have followed in our wake. Here we may remark that of 26 journals in this city ours is the 3rd in point of age, and also of circulation. We count upon our books the names of about 2800 subscribers, between daily, weekly and fortnightly editions, and our relations abroad are everyday increasing.

When we take a retrospective glance at the past ten years it is cheering to think that the growth of the STANDARD has gone hand-in-hand with that of our commerce, and importance of Buenos Ayres. Who can say what will be the magnitude of all these ten years hence, in a country where all our resources are growing with marvellous rapidity? Who can say but that in 1881, if we live to see it, the STANDARD of that period will be as great a contrast to our present sheet as the latter is to the little letter page that we gave to the public on May-day, 1861?

THE COMISION POPULAR.

The services which the Comision Popular rendered during the plague can never be exaggerated. The names of our fellow citizens who figured on that Board are written in the hearts of all—heroes, true moral heroes, who disregarded of the danger stood firm at the wheel, while the ship was almost sinking. Black as is the history of Buenos Ayres for the last two months, the chapter is illumined by the noble conduct of the men who composed that excellent Board, and whatever may have been their claims on the public previously, whatever their antecedents—their services during the plague entitle them to a patent which every man in Buenos Ayres must acknowledge.

When we recollect the terrorism which reigned in Buenos Ayres at the period when the Comision was first organized, the utter inability of the ordinary institutions of the country to meet the emergency, and the self-sacrificing heroism of those men, who influenced by no other motives save the purest philanthropy, exposed themselves to every danger and underwent every fatigue to help their fellow man, we cannot withhold our admiration for such priceless civic virtues.

The conduct of the Municipality has already received from us our fullest praise, and the members full well deserved it; but we must bear in mind that the Municipality is an institution, and when the fever came the members were in harness. Not so the Comision Popular, which sprung into existence at the free will of the men who created it. A "forlorn hope" brigaded in the darkest night of sorrow that Buenos Ayres has ever known, and which manfully went under fire when disease had fairly conquered man.

There is something after all sublime and splendid in such moral heroism. Men in good circumstances and position taking watch and watch at the plague-stricken couch of the very humblest in our society. The theme is a glorious one, it redeems us, it regenerates us—and though the cloven foot of malice may hint at this or that, the grand fact stands before us, that charity in Buenos Ayres has no nationality.

If this awful visitation of Divine Providence has sorely tried us all, so also has it brought out in their true colours the noblest attributes of civilization, man and best—be those who started from the ranks to help the poor, watch the sick, and bury the dead; their names are inscribed over the graves of thousands of our fellow men. They are indelibly written in the history of Buenos Ayres; more still, they are recorded in Heaven. Why seek to recount all the services of this Comision Popular, when they are known to us all, to the highest and lowest in the land. Go to whatever quarter of the city you will, the most infected plague spots in the town, and the members of this heroic Board have been before you. Night and day that forlorn hope of humanity has worked, undaunted by the death of their members, undismayed by the appalling mortality which surrounded them, they faced death at every door, and infection at every blast.

What is all the bravery on the battlefield, or the glory at the cannon's mouth, compared with the bravery of trudging night and day through a plague-stricken city, or the glory purchased at the infected couch of an expiring fellow citizen.

No cry of human misery reached the Comision Popular in vain; strong in purity of purpose they toiled night and day seeking no higher recompense than the benediction of their fellow-citizens, and well have they earned it. They spread sunshine through this plague-stricken city during our long night of sorrow; morning, noon, and night, they were to be found in the rooms of the infected relieving every patient, and procuring for the sick whatever might contribute to their recovery, or soothe their pains. Seldom, indeed, do the annals of mankind exhibit brighter examples of genuine Christian charity.

The services of the Comision Popular are now, owing to the diminution of the fever, reaching a welcome pause. The members will soon be able to retire from labours such as few of us willingly undergo. Obtrusively we claim these men as the noblest of her champions—she led them through the reeking convalescence of the town—through the infected chambers of the dying—to the grave—to the fosse.

To contemplate such services teaches us much worth knowing. Their fervent devotion on the altar of man's self-denial is an example for our children, and no matter what our faults or shortcomings may be, we will not "baste one jot in our faith in the country, so long as such heroes are to be found in our midst.

AID FROM BRAZIL.

The following letter, addressed by the Argentine Minister in Rio to a friend in this city, has been published by our colleague La Nación. It refers to the profound feeling of sympathy excited in the Brazilian capital by the dreadful sufferings caused to the people of Buenos Ayres by the yellow fever.



