

# THE WEEKLY STANDARD

Published every Wednesday at the "Standard" printing-office. Subscription \$20 per month. Single copies \$5.

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539—ELEVENTH YEAR

BUENOS AYRES, WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 1871.

CIRCULATION, 3,000

## THE LUSITANIA MAILS.

### LATEST FROM EUROPE.

Through the kindness of a leading English merchant we were favoured yesterday with the latest London papers, from which we extract the following summary of news:—

London, 30th.

As yet Germany has not accepted the new Alsace Treaty in the form proposed by M. Thiers. The hesitation arises from reluctance to maintain Custom-houses on the eastern frontier of Alsace—a measure which would be necessary unless French imports into the annexed Province are restricted to a limited quantity.

Russia is about to call in a number of the men now on furlough, in order to test the efficacy of the new rules of mobilization.

Sr. Olozaga presented to M. Thiers yesterday the Royal Warrant by which the King of Spain confers upon him the Order of the Golden Fleece.

It is announced from Ajaccio that when the Corsican Deputies landed there yesterday they were received by a great crowd, with the cry of "Long live the Emperor."

The Bourse has been weaker. Renten closed at 56½. 50c. lower than yesterday.

The Radical Committee of Lyons has demanded that all candidates to the Councils-General shall give in their adhesion to the following programme:—That they shall insist upon an Income-tax upon a progressive scale; the suppression of the budget of public instruction, with the privileges attaching thereto; gratuitous education, primary education to be also compulsory; reorganization of the army and magistracy; revision of the jury list; and that the candidates shall either collectively or individually address petitions to the Government demanding the dissolution of the Assembly and a general amnesty.

At to-day's sitting of the Court-Martial, Bossat, an engineer, was acquitted; Giraud, a lieutenant, and Delàye, a captain of the Federals, were sentenced to transportation for life. Crollet, a professor of mathematics, was condemned to five years' imprisonment. Audeloque, a Federal captain, was sentenced to detention within a fortified place. Campan, a Lyons Railway servant, was acquitted.

Two explosions in the ruins of the gun-cotton works at Stowmarket are reported. These were caused by the exposure of some tanks containing acid to the action of the weather, and no damage was done.

The state of affairs in Algeria shows no great improvement. The latest accounts state that the subdued tribes only surrender their bad muskets and hide the good ones. General Deplanque has thought it necessary to burn many villages.

The disarmament of the National Guard of Lyons, Nismes, and St. Etienne has been completed. At Toulouse the process is still going on.

The assassin of Mr. Norman, Assistant Chief Justice of Calcutta, has been identified as a resident at a mosque in Calcutta. He is a native of Cabul, and is said to be perfectly sane.

An official denial has been given to the reports that the French Ambassador at Rome had incurred the displeasure of his Government, and was to be superseded by Count Choiseul.

The *Opinione* contradicts the statement that the Italian Government has entered into negotiations with other Powers with regard to the question of the Pope's dotation. The matter has already been settled by the provisions of the Pontifical Guarantees Bill.

The task of determining the frontier between France and the new German provinces has been completed, so far as the Meurthe Department is concerned. The *Carlsruher Zeitung* says that the following advantages accrue to Germany from the change. 1. The Grand-Duchy of Luxemburg now only borders on French territory for a distance of little more than six English miles. 2. In the north-west Germany gains a number of new subjects who, though not numerous, are for the

most part German; as well as very important ironworks. 3. All the important strategical points to the west, south-west, and south of Metz, to a distance of four, five, or six leagues, together with the battlefields of the 16th and 18th August, now belong to the German Empire.

Mr. Butt has issued an address thanking the people of Limerick. He accepts the election not as a personal favour, but as confiding to him a solemn trust, and he earnestly and passionately hopes and prays that he may be able to prove himself worthy of it.

The Countess of Westmeath died yesterday at Kingstown.

### LATEST TELEGRAMS.

Madrid, 5 h Oct.

Sr. Cordoba has declined to form a Ministry, but Sr. Malcampo accepts the task.

The new Ministers are—Malcampo—President and Marine. Alvarez—Interior. Olozada—Foreign. Colmenares—Worship. Barsals—War. Candan—Finance. Balaguer—Agriculture. Bank of England rate of discount raised to 4 per cent. No commercial news.

Versailles, Sept. 30.

Owing to Mr. Grèvy's recommendations, the business transacted on Thursday by the Commission is kept secret. Strong interpellations on the Treaty, on the conspiracy, and on M. Thiers's absence were the principal topics. I hear from a good source that Bismarck's ultimatum on the treaty is not agreed to by Thiers. We know his determination not to be trifled with, but conciliation is still expected.

Madrid, Sept. 29.

Since the fusion of the Isabella and Montpensier partisans great activity has been displayed. The Orleanist propaganda is strong both in France and Spain. Rumours spread that M. Thiers is not seriously opposed to it.

Berlin, 30th.

According to the *National Zeitung* of Berlin, the French Government has undertaken to protect the Germans at Lyons.

Paris, 5th.

The *Journal Officiel* denies that officers in garrison at Satory drank to the Emperor Napoleon's health. Marshal MacMahon has protested against such rumours.

Comte de Chambord has gone to Geneva.

Jules Favre has drawn up a project of Compulsory Instruction.

A new Imperial Club has been formed and already counts 7,000 members.

## PARIS LETTER.

September 27.

There is a general cry of 'wolf' respecting the Bonapartists. Some journals demand that the *Officiel* journal speak out, a very evident sign that there is something in the wind. That the ex-regime should conspire is quite in the nature of things. It is bone of its bone and flesh of its flesh. It will stop at nothing to achieve its ends. That the friends of the dethroned are most active is undeniable. Paris is full of them, they are in high spirits and have faith in their success. Hitherto they had only a half-and-half advocacy in an obscure journal, now they have three newspapers—the principal one, *l'Ordre*, will be directed by Clément Duvernois, an able writer, who has touched all modes of the lyre. He makes no secret of what he aims at. He wants the dynasty that made France prosperous during the last twenty years, and the iron hand that reined in the turbulent. But he forgets the public degeneracy at which this was purchased. If the 'Order' promised under the 'Third' Empire, is to be on a par with the 'peace' professed by the 'Second,' the country will not have much to gain by passing through another sea of blood, a new age of misery.

It is with the army the whole question rests, and the army is not in a united state. It is clear the Bonapar-

tists have been, and are bidding for its affection, and sympathetic 'tracts for the times,' promoted by them have been prohibited the canteens. At all events the prominence the rumored plot is given, cannot but serve its agents. These make out a 'beautiful case,' to attract the crowd. The reign of Gambetta is contrasted with Napoleon the Third, and the crimes of the Commune summoned to cover the unpopularity of his ex-Majesty. The country wants repose to strike a balance with the past, and because this sought-for tranquillity would enable it to organize a 'new departure,' governing the country by the country, is the reason why the various factions are in haste to seize power, while open competition exists.

On the 8th of October the nation will elect its 'Coenseils généraux.' These are departamental Assemblies, having for object the regulation of local matters, and under the new law, are to be a powerful check on the hitherto autocratic power of the Prefect who was the reflection of the government of the day. These elections ought not to be political, but they are. The Minister of Justice, demands that the judges shall keep a sharp look out, that the magistrates abstain from interference in the elections, however indirect. The electors will not be allowed to hold preliminary public meetings to decide upon the right men for the right places, so that France would appear not to be yet ripe for the enjoyment of necessary liberties.

General Ducrot's anxiously expected history of the battle of Sedan and the capitulation of Napoleon has at last appeared. When what is devoted to his own horn-blowing is removed, there remains but two grains of wheat in the bushel of chaff, and in truth the two grains are hardly worth the search. Those who find pleasure in old women's squabbles will find much in the disputes between General Ducrot and Wimpfen. The Emperor cuts a sorry figure between the two charmers. The history shows the extent of the demoralization of the French army—better known to Von Moltke and Bismarck than to the French themselves. The recital puts at rest the rumor of peace being practicable after this battle. Bismarck plainly insisted that no peace was possible till offending Adam was whipped out of France, and did not believe his conquered foe would be grateful if let down easily. He ignores 'gratitude in nations;' possibly it is with them as with individuals—in gratitude being, according to Talleyrand, the independence of the heart.

It is uncertain if the meeting held at the ex-Queen of Spain's palace is to be viewed as a conspiracy. Her partisans—'hidalgos free from every stain'—have reconciled Isabella and her mother, and promise to do the same for the former and her husband. Alphonso—the hope and pride of Spain—will be first sent to an English school, and then wed to a daughter of the Duc de Montpensier; and then, if not before, a combined movement will be made to oust the present tyrant who wields the sceptre of Charles V. Note, in these arrangements the people go for nothing. 'What sauce would you like to be eaten with?' said the cook to the ducks. 'We would not like to be eaten at all,' replied the ducks. 'But you have no choice in the matter,' added the cook. The Spaniards here are in great glee.

The ladies of Metz have petitioned M. Thiers to commute the sentence of death passed upon Rossel. He has to undergo a second trial, owing to the informalities of the first, and it is not impossible the Ney of 1871 will be spared. Public feeling is strong in his favor. It is curious, the collapse that has taken place respecting Rochefort's discussed sentence. Quite a paper war of long duration was threatened. No side undertook to advocate his innocence; but one party sustained that society was well rid of him for ever, and the other that he was just what a fickle society had made him, and which might be less severe towards him in consequence. The court martial has held him responsible for the excesses of the French press, and in sharing the same fate as the incendiary Urbain, he is in a sense the scapegoat of disorganized France. He

has been greatly astonished at learning the extent of his unpopularity. He resolves to appeal. There is not one of the condemned, however, that can calculate with so much certainty on a full pardon after a time as Rochefort. The Parisians will return to a more favorable mood towards their pet 'gamin.' It was Trochu's letter that drove the nail into Rochefort's coffin; but the General has counted without his host. The public disapproves of his 'certificate of character' to the man of the *Lanterne*; for Rochefort did stand by the 'man of the Plan' in his adversity during the siege. Trochu has no chance. He begged, on leaving Chalons to take command of Paris, to embrace his Majesty for luck; and when the 4th September arrived, every one knows how he left the Emperor to take care of herself, while he went in for his little game—and lost, too.

The first series of the 'pupils of the Commune' has been disposed of—15 lads, aged respectively from 16 to 11 years, were taken on the barricades arms in hand, and well supplied with ball cartridge; their orders were to keep 'pegging away' at the military, and a few prided themselves on firing fifty rounds. They were in uniform; what they were fighting for they were as ignorant of now as then. One little soldier with a childish treble stated he took to war to be fed, and a companion in arms, because he found the work more attractive than an unhappy home. They all belonged to the class of neglected youth, who have had no infancy. Those who could boast of parents were not better than those who never knew a father or mother. To see them ranged in the dock, where formerly the chiefs of the Commune defiled—like steps of stairs—excited your compassion; for you reserved your horror for the infamous men that pressed their services. The youths cried a good deal during the trial, and it was a lamentable spectacle to witness their rattled regiments miles too big for them. They were found guilty, with extenuating circumstances of not knowing what they did. Those who were not reclaimed were sent to a reformatory.

As the prisoners at Versailles grow less the restrictions are less severe. It is thus that Michot, the celebrated tenor of the Theatre Lyrique, aided by a barytone, entertained his fellow-prisoners with some 'morceaux' from the principal operas. As he was applauded, Michot fainted away. Among the curious arrests made within the last few days was the 'cantinière' of the 159th battalion of Federals. She was evidently not selected to fill the goblets of the conquerors with the wine of triumph. She is 60 years of age, has no teeth, and is blind of an eye. When the work was warm at Porte Maillot, she never quitted helping her children of the guns to a drop of brandy. The police had difficulty to put the handcuffs on her, and found in her room her 'can of office,' under a glass shade wreathed in flowers, just as French brides preserve their orange blossoms. The famous Frottenaux has been found. It was he who presided with a naked sword at the club meetings held in St. Michael's Church or 'box,' as he called the building. His cure for the clergy was to dose them with mitraille at the horns of the altar, and to shoot down every reactionist in his own dwelling. An unfortunate Pole, one of the many staff officers attached to Dombrowski, was discovered among the ruins of the Tuileries; an old mattress constituted all his furniture, and even this he shared with a noted 'ex-cantinière.'

The winter is arriving precociously; fires have commenced to inaugurate the long evenings; windows and doors are being staunch to keep out the piercing wind, that even in its sighing chills. In the public gardens the children find much amusement picking up the chestnuts as they fall, and stringing them into necklaces for their nurses. The evidences of sharp misery are very general. But how terrible must be its sum where lonely want retires to die. There is but little business done; the malady of uneasiness is still in the air. Citizens seem to be only certain of the present—the day. The bound that trade and commerce took a month ago has ceased.

It is a retreat along the whole line. The health of the city is good again; the high mortality is diminishing. Bain has fallen, was which wanted to flush the sewers, and the cold weather was a necessity to kill the carrion-flies.

Many new and some old papers are appearing and reappearing. Where they are to expect support is a secret only known to their proprietors. The old newspapers cannot do more than pay expenses, if so much. There are but few advertisements, and these are of well-known establishments, announcing the usual great attractions of a bankrupt sale. The clergy and the Sisters of Charity have commenced a house-to-house collection for aid for the orphans of the war, and receive many a widow's mite. Few refuse the applicants. The theatres do not make us gay, although the 'artistes' do their best, and dramatists display great talent. It is announced that there is a great increase in the consumption of native beer, which may possibly explain the relatively increased mortality.

I do not think the inhabitants of Paris have been much excited by the unrolling of a papyrus thirty-four centuries old, and containing an Egyptian 'whole duty of man,' which the Academicians invite the French to read, mark, learn, &c. They are better pleased to learn that the President is devoting all his vigilance to trip up the Bonapartists, and that he wears a Panama hat, and exchanges small talk with the Palace gardener. The Canon of St. Denis has detailed the injuries done to the royal statues in the regal necropolis by the Prussians. Fingers, toes, noses, and arms—both of the ladies and gentlemen in marble—have been chopped off and carried away as souvenirs. Even this does not work up indignation. We are dispirited, next to heart-broken; in fact are 'not ourselves at all.' A suicide has obligingly left us the journal of his last moments, from the period that he took the 'cup of cold poison.' He ebbed away in a corner of a building site, to the music of the concerts of the Champs Elysées. His last 'pencilings by the way' were illegible, the sensation seconds unknown. Some other lunatic will certainly give us plain statements before long.

The civil notice of Baron Rothschild's marriage with his cousin appears in the Mayoralty of his district. It comes between the publication of the banns of marriage of an iron-monger and a whitesmith.

Mr. Moore C.E., Special Agent for Mr. Bateman, arrived from England in the Lusitania. He has had an interview with the Governor and presented to him the plans for the proposed Port; also, we believe, those for the paving, drainage and general improvement of the city. We cordially salute Mr. Moore on his arrival in the River Plate; he comes a harbinger of the greatest work yet contemplated in this country, and which must prove the means of vastly increasing its commercial importance.

The Eastern Tramway to the Playa Ramirez was inaugurated at Montevideo on Sunday with great success. The new bathing place at the Playa is a luxury we, miserable Buenos Ayreans, may well envy our Oriental neighbours. Will no 'entrepreneur' get an attack of 'bathing place on the brain'? or has 'tramway on the brain' used up all the speculative talent in this city. The indifferent amount of godliness any p r ipatetic philosopher might detect in the population of this city is in direct and logical proportion to the scanty facilities for cleanliness at their disposal.

Our friend Mr. Duncan MacDonald, who last year shook Buenos Ayres to its centre on the subject of Sunday auctions, has arrived in the Plate in the good ship Roebuck. We salute our Sabbath friend, and again open our columns to his strictures on this unpardonable Buenos Ayrean custom. It was whispered at the Club Progresso last night that Governor Castro will leave this week for Cordoba. His Excellency wishes to travel incog., and has assumed for the trip the name of Mr. Emilio Murphy. Mr. Agote will also go, accompanied by Mr. Bollich, the auctioneer; the latter evidently has business in view.





**INAUGURATION OF THE OBSERVATORY.**

The formal inauguration of the Argentine Observatory at Cordoba, took place with all the pride, pomp and circumstance of glorious science, on Tuesday last, in the presence of the dignitaries of the land and the elite of Cordoba. The Bishop took the initiative by blessing the enormous telescope, the largest instrument of the kind on the South American continent. Professor Gould then stepped forward and pronounced the following remarkable address: we make no apology for its length, but commend it to the attentive perusal of our readers. It is a document for history, beautiful in its composition, and highly felicitous in its remarks. Even amongst the audience every pause of the Professor was welcomed with applause. Dr. Avellaneda, Minister of Education, spoke at the conclusion of the Professor's address, and President Sarmiento concluded the proceedings with a few apropos remarks.

In spreading open our sheet to this lengthened address of Professor Gould, we pay no mean compliment to our readers, who will doubtless appreciate its beauty. The paper is less for a local public than the whole scientific world, of which the professor is so talented an oracle. The perusal of such matter is refreshing even to the general reader, who rarely finds in the papers of the day matter so calculated to enoble the mind and elevate the soul.

The following is this memorable address:—

Mr. President and Gentlemen,  
The history of civilization teaches, that there is between the development of the arts of life and the advancement of the physical sciences an intimate reciprocal relation. When physical research languishes, the arts falter in their progress; where the spirit of man is wrestling with nature to force her to yield, from her secret recesses, some knowledge of the laws which God has impressed upon the material world, the noble strife is rewarded by unlooked-for recompenses; with the laurels of the bloodless and ennobling victory, we find blended the oak and the olive; and intellectual effort finds the unexpected tribute of material advancement. Why this is so, it is no part of our task, to-day, to inquire; yet it is eminently fitting to recall this lesson of experience, as we turn for a brief period from that beautiful and honourable spectacle which for the last few days has fascinated our attention, and come hither to assist in the inauguration of this Temple of Science, dedicated to the study of those truths which the Creator of all things has written with his own hand upon the visible heavens, in characters so sublime that human intellect fails at first to recognize their glory, or to comprehend their majestic significance.

It is peculiarly appropriate, that the same enlightened statesman who conceived and guided to its fulfilment the idea of the National Exposition, should now also dedicate the National Observatory; that the same patriotic Congress should, during one Session, have sanctioned and endowed both of these honorable and salutary institutions for the advancement of the Republic; that to the same department of Government should be confided the execution and control of both; and that the same central and ancient city be selected for their establishment. It is appropriate that the liberal Minister who presides over Public Instruction should be charged with the organization of the Exposition of National Industry and Arts; and that, while he administers the affairs pertaining to public worship, he should likewise take part in the foundation of those temples where the works of God are to be studied, as he has presented them for us to ponder and to explore.

Your Excellency, Mr. President, His Excellency, the Minister of Justice, Worship and Public Instruction, and these distinguished citizens, will therefore allow me to express my gratification, not only that I am permitted to bear my modest part on so auspicious an occasion, but also that these two inaugurations—both of them, in my firm belief, harbingers of blessings and sources of abundant future pride to the Republic—are so closely related in place, in time, and in origin.

We celebrate the foundation of the second National Observatory upon the South American continent, and the first institution of pure scientific re-

search established by the Argentine Nation, although we may not forget the splendid museum of the province of B. Ayres, to which the learning and ability of its Director has given such a world-wide renown. A path is now fairly broken for the progress of the new forms of intellectual culture and higher civilization which are winning a foothold in all the leading nations of the earth. Within my own memory, the number of observatories in existence where astronomical observations are habitually made, has increased three-fold. Within but little more than 25 years, has been constructed every active observatory now existing in the United States. Even during the single year since the province of Cordoba presented to the nation, for astronomical purposes, the land on which we now stand, tidings have reached me of the establishment of three new astronomical observatories in that country; and there is now scarcely a single institution of higher instruction in that republic, possessing any distinction, which is not either provided with an observatory or engaged in the endeavor to secure one. There are thus at least twenty such institutions in the United States already provided with the means of adding to the sum of human knowledge. In England and on the European continent the number is far greater; and in this southern half of our Western hemisphere, we have tidings of a magnificent telescope now erecting in the city of Quito, upon the very equator itself, as well as of an observatory, which that devoted lover of science, the Emperor of Brazil, has founded upon the shores of the beautiful bay which gives name to its capital. Thus at least the stimulus of emulation will not be wanting to us, explorers of the Southern skies.

I might enter upon extended remarks for the purpose of explaining and illustrating the practical benefits which a National Observatory, properly administered, might be expected to confer. I might show how, through the agency of this Observatory, our geography may be perfected—the characteristics of our climate so investigated as to serve the wants of agriculture and commerce—gifted young men trained for the national service as military, naval or civil engineers—the time accurately determined and telegraphed for use by the railroads, and for adjusting chronometers at the seaports—and might describe those various other ways in which we hope that it will directly minister to the practical service of the Argentine nation. But, surely, this would be needless. The statesmen in the Executive and Legislative councils, who have of recent years been shaping the policy of the Republic so wisely and with such large views—founding railways, instituting telegraphs, building roads and bridges, suppressing foreign invasion, domestic insurrection and savage incursion, disseminating primary and normal schools, establishing colleges, and introducing into the universities the studies of God's works as well as man's words—these men need no indications of mine to show them the practical value of this new institution which they have themselves established. Rather would I say a word regarding the claims which abstract science has upon every civilized nation, to aid in her advancement. Shall the New World not bear her part in the crusade which the intellectual portion of mankind is carrying on to obtain possession of the Holy Land of Truth? gathering from the mysterious and yet unfathomed realms of the unknown a knowledge of those facts and laws which the Creator has decreed, and which he has made accessible to us, if we will but use those mental powers with which he has endowed the human race.

If it be among the duties of a good Government to promote the religious sentiment of the people, how can this be better done than by disclosing to them the revelations which the all-wise Author of Nature has inscribed upon the universe which he has made; and proving that God has created man in his own image, implanting in him the capacity to fathom the very secrets of creation? It is demonstrable that mortal man has actually measured the distances of stars so remote that their light requires nine or ten years to reach us, although travelling 64,000 leagues in a second—that is to say, with more than ten times the speed of an electric signal upon the telegraph wires, and with such rapidity that it would encircle the earth during one single vibration of the humming-bird's wing. It can be proved that the vast majority of the stars which gem the heavens are at distances much greater yet. It can be made manifest that science has determined the chief materials of which the sun, many of the stars, and even many of the nebulae, are composed. And do not such

achievements as these, as well as the many similar facts which the Observatory can demonstrate, disclose that spark of divinity which is implanted in the human breast?

If it be the part of a good government to develop the intellectual capacities of the people—how better than by placing among them an institution whose results and whose very presence afford a stimulus to study and to investigation? If it be a duty to form alliances with neighbouring nations, to resist the inroads of barbarism, and secure the influences of civilization and free institutions, even by the sword—it surely must be incumbent upon every civilized people to assume its share in that grander alliance by which the most enlightened nations of the earth are joining in one solid phalanx to disperse the darkness which for so many centuries has obscured man's knowledge of the universe, and discover the counsels and the laws according to which the Almighty has seen fit to create the material worlds? Every telescope that explores the heavens is a piece of artillery for the invasion of the realm of ignorance; and it bears its part in the conquest of new and lofty truths, by which the human race shall be exalted, morally, intellectually and physically. A century ago, the few observatories, sparsely dotted here and there through a small region of Europe, contained all the means which the human race possessed for fathoming the sublime truths of astronomy. Yet how magnificent were their results! And now this earth of ours is beginning to bristle with astronomical batteries; and the majestic outposts of the army of scientific investigation are to be found in the farthest regions of the globe. Fervid India and the Polar Circle, the distant shores of Australia and both the coasts of either hemisphere bear witness to the conquering march of discovery; and, much as man has learned of God's creation hitherto, he is learning more in each single year now, than ever in half a century before. Twenty years have passed since Chile joined the holy alliance, and now our Argentine land has likewise enlisted in the glorious cause.

But I will pass from these general considerations. Possibly you may desire to know what we are proposing to do at present, what we hope to do soon, and what we have succeeded in doing already.

That there have been delays, I need not tell you. Indeed, I have heard it whispered that this Observatory is neither the first nor the only enterprise which has not progressed with the speed which the managers could have desired. Our instruments were on board ship and ready for sea, when that great war broke out which recently convulsed all Europe. Some were on board a French vessel and some were in German ships; but whatsoever their subject of discord, both French and German vessels agreed on one point—that port was better than sea at such a time. Happily our books and instruments escaped capture by the enemy; but when that danger was past, came a new obstacle, for they were ice-bound in those northern seas. Months passed and melted the Baltic ice; but when the vessels reached the distant shores of the Plate, they found the brilliant city desolated by pestilence, and all the agencies and facilities for commerce gone. These delays over, yet others and still worse ones came, for ascending the Parana, the port of Rosario was found blockaded, not by foreign foes, but by domestic apprehensions; and thus nearly a year had elapsed before our implements were safely received in Cordoba.

Meanwhile our edifice had not escaped the common calamity of all the public works of the nation; and it is not quite two months since the legislation was perfected which enabled us to resume the work. Now, at last, our building presents itself in its full proportions, and but a little while need elapse before all the instruments are actively at work.

When we lift our glances to the nocturnal sky, while neither moon nor clouds obstruct the beauty of the scene, and contemplate the myriad points of light that gem the firmament,—some brilliantly sparkling, others shining with a milder light, and others still just visible to the unaided eye,—there are few cultivated or thoughtful minds which can fail to be deeply impressed. Yet rarely does the beholder feel the full significance of the prospect. A very few—possibly three or four—of the stars he sees are planets, belonging to our own sun, and changing their position among the rest from day to day. The rest are fixed stars. Looking upon them, we see the heavens nearly as they shone down upon the sages of antiquity,—yes, upon the very earliest of the human race,—and as

they lighted up the midnight for those strange and fearful monsters whose fossil bones we sometimes find in their ancient sepulchres to bear witness of those ages, thousands upon thousands of years ago, when no man's footstep had ever pressed the surface of our globe. We are gazing into the unfathomed abyss of creation. Not one in a hundred of those stars is within a distance which the resources of science or of human skill have yet permitted us to measure; yet the tremendous distances of those few nearest ones, which man has at length succeeded in determining, are such that our imaginations fail to conceive them, even when the demonstrations of science compel our intellects to accept the facts. Of all the stars whose distances have yet been measured in either hemisphere, the nearest is the one called Alpha, in the constellation of the Centaur, the brightest of these two bright ones which point to the Southern Cross. The distance of this star is 86 million times that of the moon. It is more than seven millions of millions of leagues. A cannon ball, impelled at the rate of three and a half leagues a minute, would require four million years to reach this star. Yet it seems to be the nearest to us of all. Sirius, the brightest star in the sky, is at more than six times this distance. Light itself requires more than twenty years to reach us from that stupendous remoteness; and could a telegraphic message be sent us thence with the same speed as it traverses the electric wires upon earth, at least 360 years would be needed for its transmission, and the tenth generation of our descendants would receive the tidings intended for ourselves.

These stars are among the nearest of all. Their distances are measurable within relatively narrow limits of uncertainty; but the researches of astronomers have shown that comparatively very few of the stars—probably not one in every hundred visible to the unaided eye—are at all comparable with these in nearness, and human capacity has proved inadequate to determine their distances, even with crude approximation.

Enough is here to compel our wonder and our awe; yet when the telescope is called to our aid, we find that what our unassisted vision had disclosed was but a faint suggestion of the countless myriads which are revealed. The number of stars visible to the naked eye in the entire circuit of the heavens has been usually estimated at about 6000; an ordinary opera-glass will exhibit something like ten times that number; a comparatively small telescope easily shows 200,000, while there are telescopes in existence with which there is reason to believe that not less than 25 million stars are visible.

Here is a field for the astronomer. And it is clearly one of his first duties to determine, as accurately as he can, the position and brilliancy of the principal celestial objects, not only in order to be thus provided with landmarks in the heavens by which to trace the movements of planets and comets, but also in order that such small changes as are taking place in their position and brilliancy may be well determined, and the causes and laws deduced to which these changes are due.

In the year 1751 a French astronomer, Abbe de la Caille, visited the Cape of Good Hope for the purpose of determining the positions of the principal southern stars. With a little telescope of comparatively insignificant dimensions, he succeeded in obtaining the materials for so complete a catalogue—as far as the limit of brightness which his telescope permitted—and in determining the positions of those stars so well that this catalogue of about 9,800 stars constitutes to-day the chief reliance of astronomers for their knowledge of a large portion of the southern sky. Since that time a permanent observatory has been established by the British Government at the same place, and a large number of valuable observations have been made by various eminent men. Other observatories in the southern hemisphere have been founded at Paramatta, Santiago de Chile, and Melbourne, all of which have contributed essentially to our knowledge of the southern sky; as also has the observatory at Madras, which, although north of the equator, commands a view of the greater portion of the southern heavens. Yet how much remains to be done in this direction will be very evident when I state that, while the number of stars in the northern hemisphere whose positions and magnitudes have been determined cannot fall short of about 330,000, the number in the southern hemisphere whose observed places have been published does not probably exceed 50,000. But this is not all. The greater portion of those which have been observ-

ed lie in that part of the sky which is clearly visible in Europe: and if we consider the regions beyond 30 deg., there are scarcely 13,000 southern stars whose places and magnitudes have been determined and made available for scientific use, while the corresponding portion of the northern sky contains something like 164,000 such stars. The late astronomer Gilliss, the originator of what is now the National Observatory of Chile, as well as of the Naval Observatory at Washington, of which latter he was the Director at the time of his death, devoted much time and labor to the effort to supply this pressing need; and while at Santiago, he made the requisite observations for determining the places of no less than 23,000 stars within 40 deg. of the South Pole. The computations were carried on at the expense of the U. S. Government, and were nearly completed at the time of his death, in 1865, after which the work was unfortunately suspended; but I have lately received the gratifying assurance that the calculations are now to be completed, and the resulting catalogue published by the Observatory at Washington.

The first undertaking now proposed for the Argentine Observatory is to do something towards filling this hiatus by determining the places of the principal stars situated between the tropic, where the observations of northern astronomers begin to become less numerous, and the polar circle, where Gilliss' observations commence. This work is best performed by dividing the sky into narrow zones or belts, and subjecting each zone to a special scrutiny for the purpose of measuring the positions of all stars of a sufficient brightness within its limits. If no unforeseen impediment presents itself, these observations should be completed within two years from their commencement.

There is another most important investigation especially desirable in the present condition of our knowledge: this is the application of the newly discovered methods of stellar photography to the more prominent objects in the southern heavens. The ingenious researches and inventions of Mr. Rutherford in New York have resulted in the development of methods by which the relative positions of clusters of stars may be permanently recorded by photographing them upon glass, and the numerical values subsequently determined by means of a measurement of the photographic impressions, with a degree of precision far greater than that of the ordinary methods. And this process possesses the signal and peculiar advantage, that the representations thus obtained of the stars' places at a given moment may be preserved, and the measurements repeated at any subsequent time. The process has not yet been introduced into European observatories, but it has been thoroughly tested in America, and valuable researches have already been made by this photographic method. At the time of my departure from the United States I had some reason to believe that contributions to a considerable amount would be made by the friends of science in my native city, in order to permit photographs of objects in the southern sky to be made at this observatory. My hopes in this respect were not entirely fulfilled; but I have still much confidence that something may be done in that direction, and that I may yet enjoy the privilege of soliciting from his Excellency the Minister of Public Instruction permission to make at the Argentine National Observatory the first stellar photographs in the southern hemisphere; these to be subsequently measured, and the results submitted to rigorous computation.

It remains for me, Mr. President and gentlemen, to say a few words, even at the risk of wearying you, regarding the manner in which we have employed our time during this past year while awaiting the completion of the Observatory.

During the greater part of the year we have had neither instruments nor building, and during the short time these have been available we have experienced an unexpected and most serious obstacle in the clouds of impalpable dust, which, rising from all sides, penetrate to the inmost crevices of every part of the instruments. This difficulty, I think, be obviated to a great extent when vegetable growth shall have covered the soil; and to this end H. E. the Minister has given directions for providing as good a supply of water as may be possible, while the building and instruments have been provided with special and unusual protections against the evil. The position of the city of Cordoba renders this trouble inevitable, inasmuch as water for irrigation is only to be found in the valley, whilst an observatory must necessarily be placed upon high land. With the arrival of the rainy



season I trust that a carpet of vegeta- tion may remove this source of anxiety.

A considerable time would under any circumstances have been requisite for computing the numerical tables and making the various other calculations needful for bringing the instruments into active service.

Nor has the progress of the work failed to afford its due share of discoveries. It has given us the knowledge of a considerable number of stars which possess the singular character that their brightness is not always the same, but undergoes systematic variations.

The transparency of the sky of Cordoba upon favorable nights may be judged of by a single additional fact. You will find in the treatises on astronomy, as I have already mentioned, the total number of stars in the entire heavens visible to the naked eye, estimated at from 5,500 to 6,000.

This work of the Uranometry is now near its conclusion. Little remains to complete the necessary observations, except that general revision which all investigations require.

Such is the nature of the task which the observatory now proposes to itself; such is the character of the observations which it has been carrying on.

The duties of a public observatory imply the prosecution of regular and systematic investigations, as distinguished from those desultory ones, which require less organization, and can be equally well carried on by individuals provided with less expensive implements of research.

We have an observatory nearly completed, as regards its building, and already provided with useful instruments, two of which are, if not among the largest, at least among the best for their size in existence—made by artists inferior to none, and capable of doing work which should create an enduring reputation for your Observatory.

To your Excellency, Mr. President of the Argentine Republic; to your Excellencies, Messrs. Ministers, let me offer my humble congratulations upon the development of your enlightened plans for the progress of the nation.

FOREIGN EXHIBITORS AT THE CORDOBA EXHIBITION.

- The following is a list of the principal foreign exhibitors at the Cordoba Exhibition:— Plan of improvements of Riachuelo—C. F. Robertson. Wire tramway models—Robertson and Cooper.

- Do do—Newton Do do washed—Younger. Sheepskins do do Washed wool, hot water—Rich

OBJECTS EXHIBITED BY MESSRS. TEMPLE & CO., CORDOBA.

- 1 steel plough—makers, R. Hornsby & Son England 1 chaff cutter, A C—Ashby & Jeffrey, do

- 1 turbine, 6-horse power—do do. 1 10-horse power portable steam engine—do do.

GERMANY IN THE EXHIBITION.

- EXHIBITORS. Four Cromo-lithographs, C. E. Gerold. Two do, Tie'jer & Co.

ROSSI'S "HAMLET."

Many persons, and some of a very fair understanding, have thought that the age of tragedy has gone by; that tragedy and the tragic art necessarily belonged to a certain epoch; that that epoch is past and forever buried in oblivion.

We have been led to these considerations by the appearance in Buenos Ayres, at short intervals of time, of three of the greatest tragic actors known.

We shall now speak of Rossi and his interpretation of Hamlet, the master-tragedy of the greatest tragedian that ever lived. After witnessing last night's performance, we are bound to declare ourself at a loss to understand what originated the discussion between the English people in Rio and Mr. Rossi.

Who would have thought it! Yet we candidly believe Hamlet was never better represented, no matter, who the actor, what the language, time, or place. There were meanings, and shadows of meaning in every action, word or movement even.

We have often thought how we would like to hear some of the great German Professors descant, as they do in their universities, on the philosophy, the meaning, scope and object of Shakespeare's tragedies, for we believe their profound studies cannot but lead them to the conclusions Rossi has come to long ago.

complete case of metempsychosis or transmutation of the supposed Hamlet's soul into his. Rossi is not to say an actor only in Hamlet. He is a profound thinker, he is the most superb exponent of that part of philosophy called psychology we have ever seen.

Rossi represents all these phases of the passions, a most difficult thing to do, with such extraordinary closeness and facility, adapting his features to one and all as the occasion requires that the spectator's attention is completely absorbed from first to last.

As a physiologist Rossi is a fine study, and we deplore the absence of those most capable perhaps of appreciating him, for the house though numerically excellent was hardly up to such fine acting. The concentration of thought sometimes displayed in the eye, the irresolution—a main characteristic of Hamlet—stamped on the lower jaw, the laxity as it were of the muscles; these and many other traits prove he disposed at once, and at will of all the human passions.

His diction was easy, pure, and natural, and his declamation of the famous 'essere unon essere' was delivered, according to very intelligent persons, without the shadow of a fault.

All the other roles were very ably executed too, especially that of Ophelia, whose entrance in the fifth act moved the whole house. Other actresses have interpreted this character differently: whether Palladini's rendering of it is right or not we do not presume to say, but if it is, no one will ever surpass her.

The gravedigger also behaved well, and was as natural in the task assigned to him as if he had known no other profession in his life. As our space is limited, we will not mention the other roles, which, as the reader may well know, are in and out of themselves of secondary consideration. The scenic decorations were extremely good, and in harmony with time and place.

D. LEWIS.

A gigantic scheme for paving with 'adoquines' the whole of the city, is now about to be presented to the Provincial Government. The terms are most liberal, and by no means onerous on householders. It is rumoured, however, that there is a hitch somewhere, and that the authorities are trying to compel the tramway companies to 'adoquinar' at their own expense every street through which their lines run, which appears to us to be simply impossible; as for such an outlay the companies would require to increase their capital.

On and after the 1st prox. trains will run to and from the Retiro to the Chacarita; return tickets \$5 m/c. The laying down of the permanent way between the Retiro and Plaza 25 de Mayo is now finished.

The increased temperature within the past few days has induced many families to migrate already to their summer quarters. While taking a matutinal stroll yesterday, we saw the first train leave the Parque station with an enormous amount of Lares and Penates stowed in the goods trucks attached to it.

The iron mole at Concordia is progressing very favorably. From a gentleman recently arrived we are informed that the abutments, retaining walls, and earthworks are about finished, a number of the screw piles already in their places, and part of the longitudinal and cross girders already fixed. The speedy conclusion will of course much depend upon the 'crecientes.'



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THE WEEKLY STANDARD.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 1871.

REVIEW FOR EUROPE.

The opening of the Cordoba Exhibition has been the great event of the fortnight; the full particulars of the ceremony will be found in another column. The Exhibition wanted nothing but a more crowded attendance to prove the greatest success; but owing to the great distance of Cordoba from the seaboard, the attendance of visitors was much under what was generally expected. President Sarmiento and his ministers Drs. Velez and Avellaneda are still in Cordoba, but are expected back early this week. The President purposes paying a visit of inspection to the Rio Cuatro Railway on his way down to Buenos Ayres.

The session of Congress has closed, and we publish elsewhere a succinct sketch of the bills passed, as also of those which stand over until next year.

Vice-President Alsina is the acting President of the Republic during Mr. Sarmiento's absence.

The health of the city of Buenos Ayres was never better than at present, and the weather, although somewhat unfavorable for sheepfarmers, is highly good for the public health. The long drought which the country has suffered from is now broken up, the rains have come, and the pastured more blooming than at present.

The Provincial Legislature is still in session, and several bills of great importance are at present under discussion; amongst others the Southern Railway Bill, which, it is to be hoped, will be properly and fairly dealt with, consulting the interests of the country and of the Company.

Owing to the very favourable advice received from Europe, there is great activity in our wool and hide markets; prices have improved, and in our commercial columns will be found the fullest reports of the last sales. As yet very little wool of the new clip has come to market, and the rainy weather which for the last fortnight we have experienced will doubtless retard the shearing season somewhat. All the wool that comes into market is at once bought up, baled, and shipped; but the heavy arrivals in November and December will try the market.

There is no longer any prospect of the saladeros being allowed to resume work at Barracas and the Riachuelo. Many of the saladeristas are now starting at convenient points along the banks of the Parana, and some at Ensenada; still the saladero business has received a check from which it will take some years to recover, and although business next year will be resumed in different parts, it will only be on a limited scale.

During the fortnight there have been several sales of estancia lands, sheep and horned cattle. The splendid estancia of Cascahales, near Lobos, 6 1/2 square leagues of land, with 80,000 sheep, has been sold for £54,000 (lg. to Judge Carril). The magnificent Maua Estancia in Entre Rios, near Gualeguay, has been sold at £24,000. In the south and north of this province several other estancias have been sold at prices which were current here years ago when the sheep-farming business was in its greatest prosperity. Good sheep sell readily to-day at \$25 to \$30 mje each, and the probabilities are that prices will yet go higher.

There have been very important sales of lands in the suburbs, where prices have risen considerably. City property still holds its value, although there is less disposition to invest except in the most central localities.

Last week there were rumours of a revolution in Corrientes, but the whole affair was a mere election row, and has blown over, and peace reigns throughout the Republic. In the Banda Oriental the revolution still continues notwithstanding that great efforts are being made to bring about peace.

During the last few weeks the arrival of emigrants at the Plate have been heavy; the last two steamers have brought 1,500, and almost every vessel that enters brings a fresh quota. Wages are very high and labour scarce; all who arrive at once obtain employment at high rates.

Mr. Robert Crawford, C.E., has started with his engineering expedition to the Andes, to survey the new line of route; he is at present near

Chivilcoy, but will soon be in the Indian Pampa.

Exchange closes for the packet at 51d.; about £200,000 passed. National Bonds are very depressed, and have fallen to 69. Discount rates rule from 7 to 12 per cent. per annum. Exchange on England, 51, 51 1/2. Do. Antwerp, 5.40, 5.42. National Bonds, 69 1/2. Gas shares, 100 prem. Bolsa do. \$5 do.

THE VALUE OF AN IMMIGRANT GRANT.

The United States Government has just published a most interesting book on the subject of immigration, and the value of the 'Immigrant.' The book will perhaps possess little interest for the statesmen of the Plate, since the theory and practice on the subject in this land is 'spontaneous immigration,' a policy which frees the Government from all the cares of an Immigration department, and rids Ministers of responsibilities that they are only too happy to shirk. There is, perhaps, in the whole record of our public affairs no subject to be found about which there has been so much said and so little done as immigration. Every River Plate politician admits that it is the fountain spring of our national prosperity, that the progress of the country during the last ten years is due more to the gigantic increase of immigration than to anything else; yet, withal, there is no bleaker spot on earth for the poor emigrant and his family to land than the Mole-head of Buenos Ayres. Within the last few years there has been slight improvement, we admit, and the Immigration Society, under the able management of Mr. Wilken, has done something towards sheltering the strangers on landing, protecting them from lightermen, lodging house charges, and even sending families up the country; but the effort, after all, is but a sickly one, and so limited as to resources and elements that, when properly considered, it only appears the more ridiculous. We want an Immigration State Department. We want the whole brains of the Government concentrated on the subject, and the millions of acres of broad lands now lying waste and desolate thrown free into the immigration market, affording to every stranger who lands on our shores a free farm and a homestead. Whoever travels along the Central Argentine Railway from Rosario to Cordoba, and notes the few smiling patches of industry where Mr. Perkins' colonists have settled, in the immense tracts of unpeopled and unsettled lands through which that splendid railway runs, will admit that the cart is before the horse in this country, and that the progress of the land is but hollow so long as our cities are crowded and our plains destitute. There is a touch of go-aheadism in the Provinces which smacks of the gilt on the gingerbread—splendid railway, splendid new stations, splendid telegraph lines, splendid everything, in the midst of a howling wilderness of rich pasture land, which generation after generation remains in the same state of wishy-washy Argentine neglect. Could Argentine rulers be brought to trial before the country, and the court held in these neglected plains, the verdict would awaken the country to the errors of its public men, and the cause of its one-horse progress.

The difficulty of determining the pecuniary or material value of the foreign population arriving yearly in this country has never caused much anxiety, since none of our statesmen have ever troubled their heads much on the matter. It seems at first sight almost derogatory to our species to value a man pretty much the same as a domestic animal, to regard him as an automatic machine, computing his productive powers minus his maintenance or living expenses. And then again, with all our research, we may measure the muscular power of the laborer; but where is the metre that can mark the activity of his brain or indicate his moral force?

A prominent German statistician—Dr. Engel, of Berlin—has thrown great light on this difficult question, and, after a very lengthened dissertation on the subject of European emigration to the States, winds up as follows: "An immigrant, therefore, is worth just as much to the country as it costs to produce a native born laborer of the same ability;" and the book now before us, published by the State department at Washington, says, "Recurring to the money value of an immigrant, it may be stated that the sum of 1000 pats. has been usually regarded as the average worth of each permanent addition to our population; an amount somewhat too large, but yet an approxima-

tion to the true value. Mr. Kapp, one of the Commissioners of Emigration of the State of New York, who has given much consideration to the subject no longer under review, assumes the average value of 1125 pats."

The American commissioner enters very minutely into the yearly expenditure of the emigrant, and measures him as a producer and consumer worth to the state 40 pats. per annum, which, capitalized, gives an average of 800 pats. as the approximate value of an immigrant in the great N. American Republic. The commissioner says:—"As a large number, especially those from Northern Europe, engage at once in the cultivation of the soil on their own account, it is desirable to ascertain the increment to the wealth of the country where they settle consequent on their industry. This appears from productive fields reclaimed from the wilderness, buildings and fences erected, agricultural implements and stock accumulated. Forty dollars per head is considered an approximate estimate of the yearly addition to the realized wealth of the country by such improvements. From the foregoing considerations, the sum of 800 dollars seems to be the average value of each immigrant—therefore the United States received 285 millions of patacos increase to the national wealth from the number of immigrants that landed during the past year; and calculating at the same ratio the immigration to the States during the past half-century, the increment from this source reaches the stupendous figure of \$6,243,880,800 pats.

Here are figures for River Plate public men. Great and powerful as is the United States to-day, her public men, are neither afraid nor ashamed to acknowledge the mainspring of their nation's prosperity. A very large portion of the emigration now flowing to the United States might be diverted to the Plate, did our public men but take the proper steps to secure it. Hear, Mr. Sarmiento, what the American statistician in his report says on this all important subject:—

"It is impossible to make an intelligent estimate of the value to the country of those foreign born citizens who brought their educated minds, their cultivated tastes, their skill in the arts, and their inventive genius. In almost every walk of life their influence has been felt, alike in the fearful ordeal of war and in the pursuit of peace; in our legislative halls, and in the various learned professions, the adopted sons of America have attained eminence. In the year 1839 there arrived from the port of London, in the steamship British Queen, a Swedish immigrant better known as Captain John Ericsson. What was his value to the country, as estimated on the ninth of March, 1862? Was it eight hundred—eight hundred thousand—or eight millions of dollars?"

Let us clear away the political rubbage that surrounds this question in the Argentine Republic. Let us do as the American commissioner has done—come to facts. What is the value to the Republic of the immigrant sheepfarmer; what is our wool staple to-day, and what was it twenty years ago, when foreign shoeblacks in our streets were unknown, and foreign organ grinders travelling over the whole country. Spontaneous immigration is not a delusion, it is a political swindle perpetrated on the nation. Private colonization is good enough in its way, but we want the whole country thrown open to the emigrant, and those millions of acres lying waste in the Plate cut up into free farms and homesteads for the immigrants.

Strike from the rational wealth of this Republic the moneyed value of the last fifty years' immigration to the Plate, as has done the American Commissioner in the States, and we arrive at the interest, which, unhappily for us all, exists in the Plate without the smallest representation in public affairs. None more than ourselves have a keener appreciation of the intrinsic value of Italian immigration. In almost every walk of life the Italian is found to-day. In all the mechanical arts the Italian is, we may say, now a necessity. But the Basque, the Irish, English, Scotch, and German immigration has almost totally fallen off, and the country will yet find the loss. The Italian immigration comes to us spontaneously; well and good; but poor indeed are the brains of our statesmen if they cannot see that sound political economy calls for a supported emigration from Northern Europe. Are the men at the helm of affairs able for the programme? Time will tell; they are at least entitled to a trial.

In connection with this subject, of such vital importance to the Plate, we

may mention that Mr. John Francis Maguire, M.P., is about to pay this country a visit. We have no fears of his meeting with any but the warm social reception Portenos always give such distinguished visitors. But how will our statesmen meet him on the ground he comes specially to inspect? His work 'The Irish in America' has been sown broadcast over the Union, at the expense of the U. S. Government. Yet, is there a man in the Cabinet here who has read it? By a stroke of the pen Mr. Maguire could send 50,000 Irishmen to these shores; but he cannot do so unless Argentine statesmen alter their peculiar immigration theories. Argentines copy with avidity everything done in the States, yet up to the present have ignored the true basis on which that mighty nation was reared—organized and liberally fostered immigration.

LATEST FROM MONTEVIDEO.

Montevideo, Oct. 28, 1871.

Dear Mr. STANDARD,

We arrived here in good time by the Republica; those who like good fare, good beds, and good treatment, can take a passage by the Republica with confidence.

The wide and clean streets here give a sort of refreshing feeling to one who has escaped from narrow and dusty streets.

Passing along the old market, where all the world and the women and children promenade, one sees the place where they have a new sort of exhibition free for all who pay, of a fat young girl, about 16 years old, with a richly-developed female form, which they show for 50 cents, under the pretence that she is a perfectly formed man. This is rather ahead of your Buenos Ayres sevenby-nine sheet, called the 'Correo de las Niñas,' because the Montevideo Exhibition is a 'cuadro vivo.'

If General Battle was a man of corrupt propensities one might suppose he encouraged these kind of shows in order to corrupt the population, but no one would be simple enough to take our good President for a Louis Napoleon. It is the head of the police department who authorizes these abominations for the sake of the few reals that such shows pay.

The first skating exhibition here was quite a success; the tumblers only seem to create laughter. As laughing makes people grow fat, the skating exhibition promises to be useful to the 'flacas' that parade the streets here and there with their faces dusted over with flour, and carrying a backload of old clothes or leathers, or brau, sufficient to load down a donkey.

To-morrow there is a great show out at Cordon, where all who choose can go and dance to music, and take their partner with them if they like. Those who can't or don't choose to dance can laugh at half a dozen men tied in sacks with their heads sticking out and running a race; and others bludgeoned and armed with swords to prod a poor rooster that is going to run about their legs and escape if he can. The price of admission to all these wonderful and intellectual performances is put down at 50 cents for men, and 20 for women, children and soldiers. Of course they don't look upon soldiers here in Montevideo as men, since they put them into the category of women and children. The officers who carry swords instead of fire-arms, will, perhaps, be allowed to pass in for men; or, rather they must do so, because nobody will ever think of taking them for soldiers.

JENKINS.

CORDOBA.

October 26.

To the Editors of the STANDARD.

Gentlemen,

The day before yesterday a rather exciting scene took place in this city of doctors, which, I should think, will stir up every American to claim from Government that the existing laws in regard to religious toleration be carried out in this enlightened city, as well as in the more unlearned provinces.

On the above named day a citizen of the United States, Mr. Starkweather, was walking in the streets, when he was met by a religious procession. The priest who carried the Holy Communion ordered him to take off his hat and kneel down, whereupon the aforesaid gentleman replied, 'I will not do so; as regards this, there exists liberty of worship.' This was enough for the priest to menace the American with the cross he carried in his hand. Mr. S. parried the blow with his umbrella, whereupon the priest, in his unholo zeal, cried out to the assistants to help

him, and in a very short time Mr. S. was placed 'hors de combat,' and left with a bruised head. The priest then told his supporters that it was enough, and that they should ill-treat the 'free mason' no more.

I think a case like the above ought not to be kept secret from the public, and this is the reason why I write you these few lines; and by publishing them you will give visitors to this 'picturesque' city an idea of what they may expect.

Apologizing for troubling you, I remain,

Your obedient servant,

LEITHNARVA.

LONDON LETTER.

Letters from New York have been received giving a detailed account of the mass meeting at Cooper's Institute to consider the financial frauds in the municipal government. The principal speakers were Judge Pierpont, Mr. Ottendorfer, and Mr. Roosevelt. Both the latter are editors of Democratic newspapers. They and the German element threaten to join the Republican party unless the Democrats can be decently honest. The question turning upon the malversations of Mr. Controller Connolly, the committee of investigation went to the pigeon-holes to examine vouchers of sundry accounts for 'plastering,' 'carpets,' 'furniture,' &c. in the year 1870. Of course the pigeon holes for that year were empty. The documents were stolen by some thief the day after the demand was made by the committee for the vouchers. There seems to be no doubt as to who the thief was. Mr. Controller Connolly has written a plucky letter, not absolutely denying his guilt, but expressing a desire that the Mayor, Mr. Hall, Mr. Tweed, and other gentlemen high in office in the free and enlightened city of New York should share the infamy.

This very dirty business is scarcely yet touched, and it is doubtful if the committee will go very deep into it; but the exposure, as far as it has gone, may end in the destruction of the 'Ring.' The permanent remedy, is perhaps long distant in a city peopled by the offscourings of the nations.

Massachusetts has done itself honor in rejecting General Butler, who was a candidate for the office of Governor of the State, and at one time it was feared that Butler, who, since the civil war, has fallen into evil reputation, would have been elected. The Chicago Railway has been opened by President Grant.

Your Lisbon telegrams by the French steamer would have informed you of the small panic in the London Stock Exchange, which lasted from the 22nd to the 26th. The Bank on Thursday again raised the rate of discount to 4 per cent., but it had no effect, as it was already anticipated.

Railway stock has since recovered itself, and the week's experience will be of benefit. The country is growing rich and prosperous again after its reverses in 1866. People were drawing out their money from the banks for mere pleasure, thinking that there were no positive investments at the moment, there ought to be, and must be before long. This little game occurred simultaneously with the great draw on French and German account. The money will all come back to us, and before X-mass we shall be once more stinking of brass.

There is every probability of your November clip of wool doing well. The Australian wools are largely in demand in France. The factories are again busy at Rheims and Roubaix. O.y.c. tallow was quoted yesterday evening in London firm at 45s. 9d to 46s.

Mr. James Caird, the well-known agricultural authority, has given us his annual opinion for 1871, as to the harvest. The upshot of it is this, that in the wheat crop we are 11 millions of quarters short of the consumption, which amounts to 22 millions. But, notwithstanding the deficiency in the wheat, the green and grass crops are so abundant that Mr. Caird considers the harvest of 1871 of an average value.

Our political dulness has been enlivened by the speeches of Mr. Gladstone at Aberdeen, Mr. Disraeli at Hughenden, Lord Derby at Liverpool, and Mr. Bruce at Paisley. Mr. Disraeli's mission was purely lucidic, but he took occasion to pronounce a fine and just panegyric on the Queen. Unfortunately he made use of the phrase that "Her Majesty was physically and morally incapacitated for attending to the business of the State." This paragraph the Daily Telegraph gets hold of, and of course isolated it from the context, and frightened Her Majesty's loving subjects into the be-



lief that the Queen was more than ordinarily indisposed.

The speech of Mr. Gladstone was very important, and particularly to a large number of your readers. The Premier had the boldness to depart from the sickening conventionalities of the old breed of statesmen which ended with Palmerston. He made a distinct point of the return of Mr. Butt for Limerick, as a representative of the 'home rule' movement in Ireland, known as the federal movement about a year ago. Mr. Gladstone attacked it fairly as an open question, and did not gloss it over or pool-pool it in the ordinary John Bull fashion. He told the people of Aberdeen, hard as their native granite, that he had not a drop of blood in him that was not Scotch, and he praised the self-reliance of the county of Aberdeen, and alluded to its prompt dealing with the rinderpest. But he made no unkind comparisons; he only asked, if Ireland is to have 'home rule,' why not Scotland, and Wales, and the Isle of Man? This, of course, was no answer to Irishmen who want to manage their own affairs in their own way, and irrespective of the goodness or badness of the way; but that Mr. Gladstone, as Premier of Great Britain, should have alluded to a question which commonly people set aside at once as treason, is remarkable; and to know how remarkable it is, it is necessary to live in London and mix with the better class of Cockneys. It is remarkable because Mr. Gladstone, in his speeches both at Newcastle and Aberdeen, proclaimed himself a 'Provincial'; he is the first Premier of the kind excepting, perhaps, his great master, Sir Robert Peel. But in Peel's day the time was not ripe for provincialism and bourgeois statesmanship. In ordinary society, it is a test of provincial manners to have your say, whether apropos or mal-apropos. The London press, in the height of its gentility, simpers like the *Pall Mall Gazette* or the *Post*, or rather its money bags, when inconvenient political questions are mooted. Mr. Gladstone will have done a service if he raises in the provinces and the provincial press a spirit of independence and defiance, as well as a contempt for the political reticence and servility of the London papers.

Lord Derby, too, although the possessor of an historical name and title, he very well represents the alliance between the houses of Stanley and Smith. He makes a better burgess than earl; but because he is an earl and talks common sense the Conservative papers grow ecstatic when he opens his mouth. During the last week Lord Derby has delivered two or three excellent addresses on the labour question, and science and art schools, with especial allusion to the ugliness of our cities and towns. Lord Derby now expatiates on these subjects from the height of his position, and his political following applaud without appearing to be conscious that the thorough ventilation of these subjects must lead to a different political and social regime to that which now rules in England. The undoubted waning of Mr. Gladstone's popularity has caused a Conservative reaction, a small recoil of the wave which carries with it the loose stones and floating rubbish. But a little less of Scotch clanishness, shiftness and cant, and more true nobility and thoroughness of action will carry Gladstone over next session. The backbone of the English people is with him.

At this moment there is great indignation among our summer tourists against the great Scotch landowners, who warn people from the wild wastes and glens of the north, where in our island natural beauty and grandeur is best enjoyed. But what is art and poetry to a dealer in game?

In the north of Ireland there are symptoms to-day of a counter agitation against the federal designs of Mr. Butt and Mr. Martin. The movement seems to be headed, by a Mr. Tottenham. I have heard the name before, and so have many of your old subscribers.

By this mail you will scarcely receive the London weeklies. I have looked them over. The *Athenaeum* is lighter than usual; the *Spectator* is prosier. The *Saturday* has some trash about the 'infinite' and the 'indefinite.' The *Graphic* is good. The *Illustrated* so so. *Vanity Fair* contains a portrait of Charles Darwin. The great 'savage' is represented as a gaunt-looking greybeard, aged 62, with a round philosophical head, and with his ape-like hands on his knees, he stoops and grins at the orthodox world. *Vanity Fair* like *Punch* and light literature in England is very orthodox.

The 'old Catholic' agitation in Germany is increasing. Dr. Dollinger and

his co-religionists have had a great meeting at Munich. Many of us appear to be mistaken in our appreciations of this movement. Dr. Dollinger is no Luther but a firm advocate of church organization and Catholic dogma. At present the movement is directed only against the doctrine of infallibility.

The Parisian trades people have again brought out their hoarded store of francs, and subscribed liberally to the municipal loan. Paris improves slowly, but she is not yet even gay. The French and German governments are still discussing the Alsace customs treaty, but we suppose it will soon be settled. The German troops are not yet out of the neighbourhood of Paris but most of them are on their way home.

September 25, 1871.

Through the smartness of Captain Peel and his good ship Olbers, we are to-day in possession of a STANDARD of the 20th August. With grief and something akin to indignation we read of the resignation of the Municipal Council and of the suicidal vote of the Provincial Senate postponing the scheme for the cleansing of Buenos Ayres. Our only consolation is a paragraph in the London papers stating that the Government of B. Ayres has appointed Dr. Scrivener special commissioner for the purpose of procuring in Europe such reports or information as he may deem of interest for the sanitary improvement of the city. Some anxious apostles of sanitary reform have already seen Dr. Scrivener in the flesh in Lombard-street, and have witnessed his powers—that is, his documentary powers.

The new Val de Travers asphalt, which has been laid down alongside the tramway in the Blackfriars-road, has failed in that particular use. The rails get out of level, and the cars run off the line. The road will have to be remade, and paved with stones where the tramway is laid.

The nine men who were landed at Southampton, and charged with setting fire to the British barque Sir James, of Bristol, in Buenos Ayres harbour, have been discharged from custody, the Board of Trade declining to prosecute.

The spinsters of Buenos Ayres will read with interest the announcement in the English papers of the marriage of Mr. Edward Gifford.

Mr. Alfred Lumb and Mr. Domingo Lezica are amongst the passengers for this steamer from Bordeaux to the R. Plate.

The great event of the day, the autumn manoeuvres, conclude this day with a grand 'march past' at Aldershot. They have lasted a fortnight, and been favoured with a continuance of summerlike and brilliant weather. Neither an intelligible account of the military operations nor, a fair judgment as to the efficacy of the several departments could be culled from the four hundred columns which your 'files of exchanges' will present for selection. We shall have it all bye-and-bye from competent as well as official sources. Meanwhile, as General Boum is in the 'ascendant, the childlike cry is raised,—"What does Blumenthal say?" From English officers who were present I learn that his pets are the 60th Rifles, whose skirmishing, he said, was perfection; and he was rather spooney on our light cavalry, and particularly the 9th Lancers. The artillery he not only praised, but even envied. The cookery at the Duke's mess, the raw steaks and melted butter, he pronounced 'schlecht schmatzig.'

From the accounts published in our own newspapers, you must make allowances for two puerilities which mar their impartiality, namely, a desire to attack the present ministry through the shortcomings of the control department and the militia, and a foolish leaning towards the defending force, that in the sham fight is supposed to represent the native army. You will observe throughout, and even in the accounts in Conservative papers, that the wisdom of Mr. Gladstone in abolishing purchase, even by arbitrary means, is thoroughly confirmed by the inefficiency of the regimental officers when left to their own strategy and devices. The old bull-dog courage of the Englishman is of now no avail unaccompanied by intelligence and scientific knowledge. There were many instances both in reconnoitering and in the thick of the fight where officers exposed their men to utter annihilation under the impression that they were doing a plucky thing. Whole regiments would pepper at each other till they were literally, not metaphorically, as the *Times* correspondent says, black in the face, and at 40 or 50 yards distance. It is regrettable that a gross

example of this mere animalism which the 'country party' still think the grand attribute of an Englishman, was displayed by His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales. In the last great battle yesterday along the Cobham ridge, when the defenders were reinforced, and under General Carey attacked the invaders, commanded by Sir Charles Staveley, who were threatening Aldershot, there was an interval of confusion in Staveley's army manoeuvred by Carey and Lyson. The Prince of Wales, who in the home army commanded a division of cavalry got lost, and a troop of the 10th Hussars was captured by the 9th Lancers and Queen's Bays. The Prince rode up from his post singly and demanded the men, and indeed put himself at their head, and dashed away with them. Not content with this brilliant feat, he then charged a battery, and of course his troop, annihilated, he was claimed prisoner by the artillery officer in command. Sir Hope Grant was appealed to as umpire, and he decided in favour of the artillery; whereupon the Prince wrenched round his horse's head, stuck in his spurs, gave the word to his troop, and again cleared off with them, followed in a regular charge by the Lancers, headed by Sir Charles Staveley himself. The Prince and his men were too well mounted, and they got away. The whole affair was child-like.

Amongst the militia there was a notable want of discipline, some discontent and impertinence to officers, a good deal of chaff among the Cockney regiments and impolite expressions; and, indeed, as an officer of the regulars remarked, "the fellows sadly wanted wheeling into line." The few regiments of volunteers present in the manoeuvres have won the hearts of the regulars, and immensely raised their branch of the reserve forces in public estimation.

At the outset there were some instances of growing feuds between regiment and regiment which might have had serious consequences. The English do not yet understand playing at soldiers. A picket of Life Guards were captured by the 10th Hussars, and carried in disgrace to head-quarters. The Guardsmen say the men captured were employed in the postal service of the regiment, and not on duty. They swore if they caught the 10th in battle they would ride them down. I send you separately a condensed account of the general operations since the hard-fighting commenced last Saturday, 16th inst. I think you may be certain that, with many little shortcomings natural to an army so long on a peace footing, the general result of our first effort at mimic fighting on a large scale has disclosed in our troops grand merits which are fortunately inbred and permanent, and some defects easily remedied.

Mr. Isaac Butt has been returned for Limerick without a contest. Mr. Butt represents the now growing party in Ireland known as the 'Home Rule' party, which is likely to supplant Fenianism, and, as I think, ultimately to attain its ends. Apart from political questions, the pressure of business at Westminster has become intolerable, and many local matters might at least be better discussed in Dublin and Edinburgh, and perhaps York. The ideas practically carried out in the United States, and which the Commune of Paris suffered for and wessed, are taking root in Europe.

A serious misunderstanding has arisen between the United States and Mexico.

The overbearing conduct of the Mexican Government towards that of the United States has become so chafing that Americans have lost patience, and at Washington it is rumoured that a very little will induce President Grant to take decisive steps against Juarez, the Mexican President. A despatch from Washington, dated September 6, gives an account of several indignities inflicted on American shipping. From this despatch it appears that some months ago an American vessel was seized in the River Grande by the Mexican authorities, upon an allegation of attempting to evade the revenue laws; and that, notwithstanding his protestations, the master was treated with contumely. He has made a full statement to his Government, and the matter has become one for international arbitration. Other cases of outrage since then have been reported, information having been forwarded from Galveston to Washington that the Harvest Home, an American barque, in consequence of the attitude of the Mexicans on the 27th of August, while the vessel was at Santa Anna, had been obliged to put to sea without completing her cargo. On the 27th August, also, the American Brothers, of Nor-

folk, Virginia, was taken possession of by an armed force of Mexicans, and the master forced to abandon her, being picked up 24 hours afterwards by the Harvest Home, and conveyed to Galveston. The master of the Brothers, Captain Thurston, will, it is understood, proceed to Washington and make a full statement of all the facts in the case to the Government. The American Minister in Mexico has however, already taken steps in the matter, having demanded from the Mexican Government an ample and pecuniary apology for the insults to the American flag, which will be obtained by force if not immediately forthcoming.

A gigantic scheme of railway communication between Europe and India has been proposed. The estimated cost is 40 millions, half of which will be borne by India and Great Britain, and half by the rest of Europe. The route is via Persia, and the time to be occupied five days!

Some sensation has been caused by the assassination of deputy judge Norman at Calcutta by a Musliman. The telegrams say the motive was private revenge for an adverse decision of the Judge against the assassin. But there are always fears that it may be a part of a religious movement amongst the Mussulman population, and known as the Wahatee movement. This conspiracy has for a long time engaged the attention of men who are intimately acquainted with the feelings of the people of the Punjab and North of India. It has been said that only the adverse decision of the religious authorities at Mecca has hitherto prevented a general outbreak of the Mussulmans against English rule.

There is a religious difficulty in China also that may give trouble. Those excellent men, the missionaries, insist upon distributing tracts and pills amongst the "heathen Chinese." The young mandarins, the junkers and literati of Canton, ridicule both pills and gospel, and have instigated the people to pull down a church at Fanskan erected by missionaries. The church has been rebuilt, and now the danger is that it will be again destroyed and our ships and guns will have to go and assist the operation of the pills.

Political affairs in France and Germany present no new aspect, and I leave them to the telegrams. Neither is there much of interest in general home news. The Queen has been really seriously unwell; but the exaggerated accounts you may receive from the Continental papers are quite untrue. Officially as given in our discreet and delicate press Her Majesty suffers from a sore throat. I think I am not wrong in saying, for the benefit of the interested amongst your readers, that the Queen suffers from a tumour in the throat, and very likely it is a symptom of a family constitutional complaint.

Mr. Guppy has publicly offered to lay his wife's diamonds against the Crown jewels that the story I sent you sometime since about the 'spiritual or psychic translation of Mrs. Guppy from one part of London to another is literally true. The question is, would Mr. Guppy bet an even bet of five shillings that it is true?

## NEWS OF THE WEEK

President Sarmiento arrived here on Sunday from Cordoba, H.E. was accompanied by all the functionaries in official attendance, and by several leading Buenos Ayreans who had been to the Exhibition. The Chief Magistrate seems none the worse for the heavy inauguration work he has gone through since he left, and appears in the best of health. The Presidential party left Cordoba on Saturday at a quarter before 8 o'clock, a.m., and arrived here on Sunday at a quarter to 12, thus accomplishing the journey in 28 hours. H.E. expresses himself as highly pleased and grateful at the warm reception he everywhere met with on his tour.

A friend of ours received private letters from the Banda Oriental yesterday giving a very gloomy description of the state of affairs in the Departments. No one in the camp believes in the possibility of peace, though in the capital hopes of it are still entertained; the armed forces on both sides continue "to sample sheep," "requisition" cattle, and confound "meum" with "tuum" in the most impartial manner. Atrocities of the worst kind are now and then committed. A poor Colorado youth was captured last week while scouting in the neighbourhood of Dolores. The Whites are said to have cut off his legs and arms and put him to death with frightful torture. Some days ago

a body of 500 Blancos entered the town of Dolores and levied a contribution of 40 National dollars from every shopkeeper and trader in the town; they then marched off without doing any injury to life. Our correspondent says that the Oriental women and girls are in a great measure to blame for the prolongation of the present lamentable strife, as they are all warm partisans of their parties, and by working devices, embroidering colours and other feminine guerdons for their husbands, lovers and brothers, keep up the spirit of hatred that has brought so many misfortunes on their country. The following translation from the original Greek by an Irish gentleman in the poetic line, gives a tolerably correct idea of what both Whites and Reds are hurrying to—

There want was two cats at Kilkenny,  
Each thought there was one cat too many;  
So they quarrelled and bit,  
They scratched and they hit,  
Till, excepting their nails  
And the tips of their tails,  
Instead of two cats, there want any!

The following, taken from the *Greenock Telegraph*, may prove interesting to our sporting readers:—"The great four-oared race for £100 and the Championship of the Thames was won by two lengths or more by the crew of the 'Cartsdyke Lass,' belonging to Greenock, Scotland, consisting of J. Moody, J. Calderhead, W. Calderhead, and F. Smillie, whose achievement reflects the greatest credit on their courage, endurance, and perseverance; and has called forth much interest, not to say enthusiasm, in a large class of the inhabitants of their native town."

On Saturday last the Provincial Chambers finally despatched the proposal presented by Dr. Olguin to light Belgrano with gas, and that gentleman will leave leave in a short time for England, to form a company to carry out the enterprise. At the same sitting the House arranged and agreed to a settlement of the difficulty with the Southern Railway; we have not yet learned on what terms.

Parties who arrived in town from Cordoba yesterday state that for three days last week it rained cats, dogs and pitchforks in the city of the doctors. The camps, a month ago, blighted by the drought, are now covered with young grass, and vegetation of all kinds is making immense strides. The rains of the past week have done immense service to the country. Wet weather in these latitudes has always proved healthy, and the fears of a return of the epidemic have completely died away; indeed, but for the persistence of some of our colleagues in making threadbare 'hechos locales' in reference to the subject, people are generally disposed to forget it, to "let the dead past bury its dead," and look forward to a healthy summer.

Rossi appeared on Saturday night for the second time in 'La Fuerza de la Consciencia,' of which he is himself the author. This melodrama is cleverly constructed, and gives much scope for Sr. Rossi's versatile genius. The character of the brilliant and successful lawyer, forced by fatality to defend a man against an accusation of the murder he had himself committed, and his subsequent confession of the crime and loss of reason, were depicted with very great force. We have never seen anything finer than Rossi's acting in the last act of this piece, where the broken down lawyer returns in a state of imbecility to his wife and child, whom he cannot recognize. The struggles of reason to recover its throne were depicted with astonishing fidelity on the countenance of the actor; and there were few dry eyes in the house when a plaintive air on the piano by his favorite child struck the chord that restores the lawyer to sanity and home. One hardened member of the press wept like a baby, and a well known consul gave way to the full extent of two cambric handkerchiefs. Rossi was four times called before the curtain at the conclusion of the piece. The performance wound up with a 'screaming' farce very well performed.

The latest Rio papers mention that the Emperor of Brazil, while at Munich, was present at a great fire that took place in that city, and lent energetic and valuable assistance in extinguishing the flames. His Majesty visited Baron Liebig while in Germany.

Dr. Velez did not accompany President Sarmiento on his return journey, but remained to have a peep at the stars through the telescope of the new Observatory. Dr. Velez is, we understand, well versed in astronomy, which is one of his favorite studies; and, although he knows every star visible to the unaided eye by name, as he has never travelled, H. E. has not had until now any opportunity of scanning the heavens through a telescope.



The last Chilean mail has brought fresh advices respecting our quondam colleague Hector Varela, who has been lionizing at Valparaiso and Santiago, and has placed 80 more shares of his new paper. Hector, wherever he goes wins.

There is nothing fresh from Paraguay respecting the late 'coup d'etat.' Things go along now quietly. Money is tight in Asuncion, but it was always tight there since the days of Francia. The 'coup d'etat,' it is thought, will do the country much good, inasmuch as it will call more attention to the place, and dignify the country with at least a political struggle. Mr. J. Smith with the proceeds of the new English loan is shortly expected at Asuncion.

Mr. Huntly gave a skating seance at the Solis Theatre in Montevideo on Thursday night last. The pit, we learn, was boarded over, and with the stage formed an excellent and extensive field for operation. The papers say that not one of the skaters escaped half a dozen sound 'croppers' at the least. The audience was numerous and enjoyed the novel entertainment vastly.

The storm on Friday did but little damage. The lightning fell at two or three places in or near the city, amongst others a heap of paving stones near the Gas House was struck. Yesterday the weather continued close, the thermometer marking 73 Fahr.

The papers of the sister city announce the dispersion of the Blanco division operating in the north under Benitez. Since its encounter with Salvañach, this force has been completely demoralized, and has now disbanded. Over 20 of the officers had embarked for Buenos Ayres, considering the Blanco cause lost. From General Borges's army no further intelligence has been received, and it is supposed he is stuck in the mud somewhere about the Tacuarembó River.

A match that has excited much interest in sporting circles will be decided this afternoon on Belgrano Downs, when the well known horses Talisman and Retaguardia will run at even weights for, it is said, \$50,000 a side. Both horses carry a good deal of wagered money, Talisman being the favorite.

Mr. J. B. Pereyra, a Portuguese, a paper dealer, and agent in Montevideo for the *Mala de Europa*, disappeared from that city on Thursday night, it is supposed for Valparaiso. He left a letter for a young man named Dias, who was his partner, begging his forgiveness, and stating that he (Pereyra) would never forget him. Pereyra is supposed to have taken 20,000 dollars with him, and leaves his partner to meet liabilities which are estimated at 30,000 dollars.

The *Progreso* of Cordoba mentions an unpleasant affair that lately occurred in the streets of that city between two clergymen of different denominations. One of them used a cotton umbrella of enormous proportions with considerable effect, but was finally drawn off by the bystanders. All sorts of gossip were afloat respecting this disagreeable incident.

We have to record a noble instance of generosity on the part of an Argentine lady. Sra. Josefa Gonzales de Lezabidet has just given to the Irish Sisters of Charity half a square of ground opposite the railway station at Mercedes, and six squares from the church, as a site for the erection of a convent. The ground, which is valued at 60,000 dollars currency, has been conveyed to the Rev. Mr. Lynch, as trustee for the Sisters.

We have papers from Paysandu of Friday last. They opine that Borges has marched for the Brazilian frontier in pursuit of Aparicio.

Two 'cancanieres' of unusual physical flexibility are expected from M. Video for the Alcazar here next week. M. Cheri has gone across to escort them up.

Letters from Rosario remark the unaccountable inactivity and want of speculation in that town in reference to the new wool clip. Little, if any, of this season's wool has yet appeared in the town, and the dealers seem indifferent as to when it comes or what its price may be. It is said that the restricted accommodation afforded by the banks is the cause of the state of things reported. At San Nicolas there is great activity, and 26 rls. have been given on contract for good mezcla wool.

We are given to understand that all the difficulties in the way of establishing an American school in Rosario have been successfully removed, and that the institution will soon be a fait accompli.

All the purveyors of amusement in Rosario have lately turned their attention to masked balls, which they

find exceedingly remunerative; but the respectable portion of the inhabitants find them a decided nuisance, and are anxious that they should be put down.

From a Montevideo paper we learn that a new line of steamers has been established between Europe and the Pacific coast. The company, formed in France, intend running their boats from Havre, calling at Lisbon, Rio, Montevideo, and via the Straits to Valparaiso. The first steamer may be expected towards the end of December.

Owing to some technical objection made by the port authorities respecting the level, opposite the Capitanía, of the extension works on the Northern Railway from the Retiro to Plaza Mayo, these were suspended on Friday by order of the Municipality. The difficulty will of course be surmounted in a day or two, but it is sufficient to prevent Mr. Crabtree fulfilling his promise of opening the line to public traffic on the 1st November.

Our literary friend Daws, of Calle Piedad, whose motto is 'second to none,' has now a magnificent collection of novels, periodicals, magazines, reviews, etc. on sale at remarkably cheap prices. We also wish to call the attention of his numerous patrons to that part of his advertisement in another column referring to subscriptions to English newspapers. Daws is rapidly working into first place as a newspaper agent, and all who subscribe through him to English or American papers bear witness to the regularity with which they are delivered.

The London *Morning News*, in an article entitled 'The Fastest Time in the World,' says: "The new express train from Plymouth to London will probably be the fastest train in the world in the part of its journey which lies over the Bristol and Exeter and Great Western Railways. Leaving Exeter at 10.30, it is timed to reach Paddington at 2.45, including a stoppage of five minutes at Bristol, and the inevitable and vexatious ten minutes at Swindon. The journey of 194 miles will occupy four and a quarter hours."

The *Nouvelliste de Rouen* announces that measures are about to be taken to canalise the Seine from Paris to that city, so as to render the river navigable everywhere for vessels of 300 tons.

The Provincial Chambers will close on the 1st prox., and there will be no extraordinary session.

According to the returns of the Topographical Department, permits for the erection of 1,504 houses in this city were issued in the year 1870, while in the previous year the number was only 886. It is supposed the return for the current year will not reach the latter number.

The last mails from Chile announce a lamentable increase in small pox along the seaboard of that Republic. Yesterday there were only six deaths from small pox in the city; the evil appears to be abating in a decided manner.

We received yesterday a copy of the new Cordoba paper, the *Exposicion Nacional*, and cordially salute its editor on its first appearance. It is very well got up, but comes a day after the fair, the speeches pronounced at the inauguration on the 15th being rather dyspeptic reading on the 29th. If our new colleague wishes to win an editorial victory of the right sort it should devote its youthful energies to inducing the authorities to remove the Exhibition Palace to Buenos Ayres, so that people can look 'on this picture and on that' when the Buenos Ayres Exhibition Company, now raising its head again, will have brought from England and erected here an iron and glass Palace worthy of the name, and the contents of which may attract visitors from all parts of the world.

A New York paper tells the following amusing banking anecdote:—A year or two ago two very respectable gentlemen commenced business as bankers in one of the thriving villages of Illinois. It is quite common for business men to have a little card printed on one corner of their envelopes, and these bankers, conforming to usage, printed theirs, giving their name and residence, and underneath in smaller type, the following extraordinary announcement: "Collections promptly attended to, and remitted 'on day of judgment.'" It took them several months to learn why their collecting business did not prosper."

On Thursday the first horse was shod on the Goodenough system, at Mr. Jones's establishment, in presence of several gentlemen who took great interest in the proceeding, and who unanimously expressed their entire satisfaction at the result. The horse was a cebrauno belonging to Mr. La-

tham, of Quilmes, who is ~~not~~ in the van when a question of ameliorating the condition of the horse is concerned. The part of the process which struck everybody most was the extreme simplicity with which the shoes were fitted to the feet, there being no forge work necessary, and consequently an immense saving of labor to the farrier.

The crusade advocated in this city by the Lord Mayor against the lower stratum of the 'Traviata' world has fired the Montevideans with the virtuous desire to do likewise. Some of our colleagues there call on the Gefé Politico, Colonel Pagola, to turn his immediate attention to this naughty subject.

The *Republica* announces that the National Government is about to renew its offers of mediation in Banda Oriental affairs. If they be accepted General Arredondo will be appointed special representative of this government at the Conference. The fundamental conditions imposed by either party are recognition by the Blancos of the present Colorado Government till March, 1872, and a general amnesty, with guarantee for the free exercise of the franchise at the approaching elections. It really seems too good to be true that this struggle is about to be removed from the tented field to the ballot box.

The Secretary of the Post Office has issued a notice that all mails for Rosario, Parana, Santa Fe, and the Interior, will close for the future at the Capitanía at 9.20 a.m., on the days of despatch.

Mr. Pippett, an enterprising Englishman, has presented to the Provincial Government a project for paving the city with 'quebracho colorado' wood. We understand that the proposal is looked on with much favour by the Government, as the 'quebracho' being hard as stone, and the supply unlimited, makes a splendid pavement, and its saw-dust is besides most valuable for tanning purposes. A sample of the new pavement can be inspected at our office.

The following are gleanings from our late exchanges, which will, no doubt, interest the general reader:—

"The *Lombardia* announces the arrival of the Maestro Verdi at Milan. He has just delivered the entire score of his opera of 'Aida' to Draugh Bey, the superintendent general of the theatres of Egypt. That piece is to be represented at Milan in the course of next January. It is also to be performed in December at the Carlo Theatre. The singers engaged are Mmes. Grossi and Pozzoni, and MM. Mongini, Stella, Medici, and Costa.

"The Messrs. Longmans are now preparing for publication 'The Pentateuch and Book of Joshua Critically Examined,' by the Right Rev. John William Colenso, D.D., Bishop of Natal. Part VI.

"The general staff in Berlin is preparing an official history of the campaign of 1870—71. Colonel Verdy du Vernois, chief of division in the general staff, has been entrusted with the execution of the work.

"A wonderful new tenor is coming to astonish the English people, and snuff out Mr. Sims Reeves. The gentleman's name is 'Sanguiovanni O'Dwyer.' 'Dame Europa's School' has been translated into Mabratti."

From Salto, B. O., we notice that Comandante Fouda is giving great satisfaction for his prompt and impartial acts in aid of justice. In Paysandu Mr. Maceachen has been again named Comandante Militar, the Government recognising him as the right man in the right place.

There is a rumour afloat that Mr. Wilkie Collins's anti-athletic theories have recently obtained acceptance among a few of the members of the B. Ayres Athletic Society, and that some of the competitors at the coming sports are a little behindhand in their training. We don't believe a word of this, and expect exciting sport on the 1st prox. Judging by the magnificence of the prizes on view at Messrs. Mackerus', the contest for them ought to be made a stiff one.

The peace rumors are renewed more persistently than ever in the sister city. It is said by the *Telegrafo* that matters have already reached such a satisfactory point that a conference has been agreed on, the members to be chosen from among the leading men of both parties and a few of the principal foreigners in the capital. This looks like business. If this miserable struggle is to be put an end to, the work can never be done by the sword, for since it commenced both armies in the field have only succeeded in showing how little they know of their trade. Only through a conference can a solution be arrived at; yet we hear from a gentleman well up in Banda Oriental affairs that so far from there

being fair probabilities of a peaceful arrangement, the belligerents are actually preparing for another 'decisive battle,' and we hear from undoubted authority that the Blancos have received a large supply of arms from this side; also two pieces of artillery.

Connoisseurs of 'the glorious vintage of Champagne' should immediately open negotiations with Mr. Alfred Jonas, of 10 Calle Chacabuco, who is sole agent in the River Plate, of Mr. Eugene Cliquot, of Reims. The peculiar virtues of the famous Cliquot brand need not be repeated to those who can appreciate them. Dealing with the sole agent is a guarantee for getting 'the right wine with the right corks.'

We commend to our readers a very able critique on Rossi's 'Hamlet,' from the pen of Professor Lewis. Nearly all the native papers have published critiques on this play. We return them our best thanks for the compliment, and hail it as a good sign of the times to see Shakespeare becoming popular in Buenos Ayres.

We hear something of a duel that was to have come off on Thursday, in the woods at Palermo, between two foreigners, with rapiers. On reaching the ground however, a Bob Acres kind of sensation overcame both parties, and by mutual consent the spitting tools were abandoned and fist-cuffs resorted to, the result being claret 'ad libitum' and considerable discolouration about the eyes of both parties. 'The lady in the case,' with that justice for which the sex is remarkable, declared for the party who had suffered least in the encounter.

The deaths from small pox in the city have declined to from six to eight per diem.

The steamer Patagones arrived on Thursday from the south; she brings 36 passengers. There is but little news from Patagonia or Bahia Blanca. We are told a fair harvest is expected in the wheat growing districts.

A colleague says that the Lacroze Tramway will raise its fare to \$3 mc in consequence of the high price of forage. This is a move in the wrong direction.

Latest accounts from Asuncion represent the police of that city as acting with great vigour against the parties suspected by the Government, some of whom have taken flight to the camp, others to Villa Occidental. Arrests continue to be made daily.

Letters have been received from Mr. Grigor announcing his intended departure for the Plate by the Pacific steamer of the 12th inst.

A subscriber who came down yesterday morning from Rosario by the *Republica* speaks in most eulogistic terms of the accommodation and treatment on board that fine boat, the attention of Captain Muir making the trip a delightful one. Great excitement was occasioned in Cordoba by a telegram which appeared in the daily papers there to the effect that the Hotel de la Paix had fallen in, killing and injuring many persons, and that amongst the dead was Mr. Marechal, the well known proprietor. It is a pity that the author of this idiotic attempt at a joke, or a malicious design to injure, cannot be tracked out and visited with the punishment he merits. Our friend says that if 'happy is the nation that has no history,' the province of Santa Fé is on the road to supreme felicity; but we fear that if he has travelled from Dan to Beersheeba and found all barren, the fault is with him. One bit of good news he does bring down, viz. that the late heavy and seasonable rains have put the wheat crops almost beyond danger, and that there is every prospect of Mr. Perkins' colonists and the English settlers in Santa Fé reaping abundant harvests.

Messrs. Juan Cruz Varela and Co. have proposed to the Provincial Government to undertake the construction of the Waterworks, Paving and Drainage of this city on the plans drawn up by Mr. Bateman. The terms proposed by Messrs. Varela are fair. The company will provide the funds for carrying out the works, the Provincial Government guaranteeing 7 per cent. interest. The Government will have the option of buying up the company's shares at any time, paying in 'Sanitary Funds' scrip bearing 7 per cent. interest and 2½ per cent. amortization. There can be no doubt that the capitalists of London will prefer to subscribe to a private enterprise for carrying out our City Improvements rather than see another State Loan in the market so close on the heels of those for 6 and 30 millions lately raised.

Our letters from Montevideo yesterday announce that the reported pacific mission to the north of Messrs. Ramirez, Herosa, and Reiles has

proved moonshine. They had no commission from the Government, and as their amateur diplomacy has proved futile, they are now, like sensible men, returning to their respective homes, determined for the future to confine themselves to their private affairs, and throw diplomatic physics to the dogs.

A friend in Cordoba writes us—The visitors from Buenos Ayres and Montevideo had a loss in not waiting a few days longer. The ball to President Sarriente on Sunday night was the grandest thing imaginable. It quite eclipsed the one last week in honor of the visitors, both in the number and toilettes of the fair dancers. The largest house in the city was fitted out for the occasion, and so crowded were the saloons that the dancers had to take to the patios, which were neatly carpeted, covered with awning, and lighted by innumerable Chinese lamps. Even there the long dresses were found inconvenient. The weather had been rainy for the previous few days, which threw a slight damper on the occasion, nevertheless it is calculated that not less than 500 or 600 people must have been present.

From Mercedes, B.O., the diligence men are all absent in the tented field, ruining their country while nominally serving it. The people of the place have meanwhile turned the diligence into a bathing box, and a capital one it makes.

Mr. Luis Huergo, O.E., has addressed a lucid report to the Provincial Government on the Moules system of 'Earth Closet' which Messrs. Bulrich and Co. propose to introduce if their scheme for cleaning the city be accepted. Mr. Huergo's report is too long for our columns, but we may mention that it is much in favour of the adoption of the Moules system.

We hear that Mr. Huntley's skating entertainment is very much 'la mode' in the sister city, and draws crowds on every occasion. We expect to hear something about it from 'O'hello' in his next letter.

The *Mining Journal* gives the following return of the consumption of silver in New York:—The sales of silver in New York, for consumption by manufacturers of silverware, including bars of refined and Mexican dollars, are said to aggregate \$5,000,000 annually. Including the consumption of precious metals by manufacturing jewelers of all sorts, this aggregate is increased several fold, the estimate of New York being alone \$15,000,000—that is to say, \$5,000,000 in silver and \$10,000,000 in gold; and this exclusive of what is known as 'rolled stock,' or ribbons. The fact is asserted that there is more silver used for domestic purposes in the United States than any other country in the world."

Mr. Tolkien writes to us to say we erred yesterday in the nomenclature of the Cordoba Exhibition music he was kind enough to send us. The waltz and galop referred to are simply called 'La Exposicion de Cordoba,' and have no connection with the Great Tonic. Seeing 'Hesperidina' in enormous letters on the cover probably produced a kind of 'Tonic Sol Fa' confusion in our ideas, and caused the error which we trust Mr. Tolkien will excuse. We had the pleasure of hearing his waltz played last night by a lady friend, and it strikes us as being a charming composition.

The following are the particulars of the outrage lately committed at an English estancia near Frayle Muerto; they are from the 'mayordomo' of the establishment:—"On the 10th inst. a party of Gauchos rode up to the estancia at dark, asking for a 'rodeo.' While I was talking to their 'capataz,' I saw six or seven more coming up, who, this man said, were his peones. When they reached the house they pulled out firearms, and, as I and my three native peones were unarmed, I was made prisoner, and the estancia robbed of 3,210 Bolivian dollars and four horses. The villains robbed me of everything except my wife's gold watch; I have not even a change of clothes left. When I told the authorities of the occurrence, the Comandante flatly refused to give me men to assist in searching for my property; he offered one man, but I said, if he did not mean to try and take the robbers at the expense of the State, they might go and rob someone else. The warning given some time ago to the Emigration Society by the English Minister is confirmed." It will be seen by the foregoing account that the outrage, though bad enough in all conscience, is not of the terrible nature described by our colleagues. The conduct of the authorities merits the severest censure, being simply scandalous.



## THE ARGENTINE DORKING.

It is a long story, my son, the sorrows of this country, and the singular events which led to the annihilation of the once great Argentine Republic. The capture of Buenos Ayres by the Germans, the conquest of Entre Rios and Corrientes by the Russians, and the creation of the present monarchy on the ruins of one of the most prosperous republics of the last century.

Slaves we are, and slaves we must be, because our ancestors were fools.

It was towards the close of the 19th century when the Argentine nation stood first in South America, her ships covered the seas, and her trade spanned the world, that the last Presidential election ever held in the Argentine Republic took place. For some time previously bitter political discussions had been going on respecting the removal of the capital from the city of Buenos Ayres to a more central part. Two Argentine Presidents had already vetoed the measure; the illustrious hero of Pavon (General Mitre) and the great and enlightened Sarmiento had used all their influence to oppose it, and postponed its consideration until that fatal election, which was the proximate cause of the country's misfortune.

The people were polled as never before—five hundred candidates stood for the post—five hundred newspapers upheld their claims—there was no business in the land save electioneering! The fatal day at length arrived, and an Argentine called "Parado Gurmano" was elected President.

The new President was a man of the most extraordinary progressive views, of some natural talents, but whose early education had been neglected. His ancestors had settled about the middle of the last century in Montevideo, where they were ruined by the constant wars in that country. As soon as the new President assumed office, he called Congress together, and proposed the immediate removal of the capital to Villa Maria. The bill was at once passed, and three of the first Bolsa brokers were ordered to London to negotiate a hundred million loan for the building of the new city. The whole of the loan was subscribed for by telegraph before the brokers started for Europe, and all the carpenters and builders in the Republic were at once engaged at high wages and sent to Villa Maria. Soon the White House and State offices were built, and the President and his Ministers moved to their new quarters, but the people did not follow.

The Indians became troublesome, and the national army had to be called out. Every temptation was offered, every allurements resorted to, to induce the people to settle in the lovely plains of Villa Maria, but all to no effect. Finally force was used, and at the point of the bayonet the whole laboring population of Buenos Ayres and Santa Fé, with the exception of the Welsh colonies of Chupat, was driven up to the plains. Water being scarce, Abyssinian pumps were supplied to the people, and a canal cut from the Andes to the capital.

The foreign Ministers complained of being compelled to reside in such an inconvenient spot, but the Government paid no attention. Notwithstanding the violence of the measure, such was the elasticity of the country that it withstood the shock, and probably the nation would have held its own but for the blunders of its statesmen. President Gurmano, finding his government too much occupied with local matters to be able to attend to the valuable guano fields in the Straits of Magellan, offered to sell the same to Prince Bismarck for the amount of the loan which he had raised in England to build the capital. The Prince accepted the offer, and sent out German vessels to load the manure. When they arrived off Patagonia, they found that a tidal wave had invaded the coast and washed the guano away, leaving nothing for the German ships to load. This so incensed the German Minister that at once demanded the repayment of the money that had been advanced. President Parado Gurmano instructed his Minister to reply to the Prince in German, and acquaint him that the Republic was not answerable in cases of "fuera mayor," and that the Government would allow to the Germans a 7 per cent guarantee on the amount, provided the guano fell short. The note was written in such wretched German that it gave offence at Berlin, and Bismarck replied in still worse Spanish. War was declared, but Russia offered a mediation, which was accepted by both nations. A special Russian envoy was at once despatched from St. Petersburg to Villa Maria, to treat. He landed at Buenos Ayres, and, as

bad luck would have it, he fell through the 'hole in the mole' the very day he arrived. As a matter of course, the poor fellow was at once carried on board his frigate; he returned to Europe, awfully disgusted, and finally persuaded his Imp. master to join the Germans and give up the cream about Turkey; the Golden Horn of the New World was the Plate, and the Constantinople worth fighting for Rosario. Russia and Prussia formed an alliance, and declared war against the whole River Plate. Montevideo placed herself under the protection of the United States, and mortgaged her Cuñapiru gold mines to Vanderbilt for half a dozen iron-clads. The Argentine nation disdained any protectorate, and called out the whole strength of the Republic. But the march from Villa Maria to the seaboard ruined the nation; it was long, and before the army arrived the Russians and Germans had seized Martin Garcia, and shut the rivers. Buenos Ayres and Gualeguaychu fell a prey to the invaders the very day that the Argentine army crossed the Arroyo Medio, and the fall of San José de Flores and capture of the Billingham Tramway decided the campaign before even a shot was fired. Meanwhile the people on the plains and in the capital all cleared out for Buenos Ayres as soon as they found the President and his army on the march. Thousands perished on the journey, and when the Argentine army encamped on the right bank of the Arroyo Medio, they found two millions of people in their rear following, whilst the Germans and Russians were occupying the whole country in their front. The dilemma was awful. The President and his Ministers at once resigned, and fled to the Falkland Islands. Peace was arranged, and the Grand Duke of the Zuyder Zee, who was encamped at Quilmes, ascended the Platine throne. The after history of this unfortunate country you but too well know, my son. The nation was compelled to change its language; 100,000 German dictionaries were imported. Every effort for liberty but increased our chains, and the glorious Republican liberties of our forefathers were lost to us forever through that horrid spot, Villa Maria and the stupidity of President Parado Gurmano—alias Sand-Bly O'Gorman.

## LATEST FROM ROSARIO.

October 26th.

The community of Rosario felt rather savage at the indifference displayed by the Government and Legislature of the Province in reference to the establishment in Rosario of a branch of the Provincial Bank of Buenos Ayres. The reason of this indifference appears to be that as the Government have sanctioned the project of a loan of one million sterling for the purpose of founding a Provincial State Bank, they view with jealousy a proposal to found another that they justly suppose would limit the profitable operations of their own establishment.

Rosario was giving way to despair, when suddenly the Buenos Ayres papers took up the affair with a spirit that does them honor, urging the immediate establishment of the sucursal in this city, reasoning very prudently that the more banking facilities Rosario commerce possesses the more extensive and safe will be her operations with the metropolitan centre.

An influential meeting has been held here, and Buenos Ayres was warmly congratulated for the friendly feeling evinced towards this community by the press of that city; and it was resolved that every practicable measure should be adopted in order to secure a branch of the Provincial Bank of Buenos Aires.

The death of Mr. Weguelin, in the Chaco, has caused a very painful impression amongst us Englishmen. Although due entirely to the imprudence of the unfortunate young gentleman, we cannot but feel deeply the sad circumstance that not only deprives society of a distinguished and important member, but throws discredit on the authorities of the country; for really it is discreditable that the wretched Indians of the Santa Fé frontier have not been long ago driven beyond the Bermejo.

This melancholy incident will probably destroy the prospects of the Alexandra Colony, which, after all, was a most risky undertaking. The only men we have in this country to settle frontier lands are men like those of the Californian Colony—old American backwoodsmen, who hunt down the Indians for pastime. This colony has not lost a single man, and I suppose each member of it has killed his half dozen Indians. To put inexper-

enced colonists inside the Indian territory is to consign them to certain destruction, and the enterprise to certain ruin.

Mr. Weguelin met his death by the merest foolhardiness and exuberance of courage. In the same paper which contained the account of the death of this poor young gentleman, there was an account of a party of eight men having been most barbarously murdered by the Cheyenne Indians, on the Western frontiers of the United States.

Is Cordoba the victim, or is she the victimizer? That is the question debated in our press at the present moment. One of our most talented writers, Dr. Ocampo, lays his lance in rest in defence of the City of Doctors. Our friend Mr. Lagos, of the Capital, pitches into the lazy and apathetic Cordobeses like another Amadis of Gaul. For my part, I look upon the Exposition in Cordoba as an error. It is like making a present of mince pies to the Feejee Islanders, or laced petticoats to the dark beauties residing on the borders of the Victoria, Nyassa.

'Oh, señor,' said a merchant of Cordoba to me, 'how shameful it is to bring you intelligent foreigners to see a ridiculous collection of old skins, worthless stones, bad wines, and badly made ponchos.'

And this is what is said in Cordoba of a collection of natural products that would do honor to any nation in the world. Laying aside the fine arts of the Old World, the wonderful perfection of its fabrics and manufactures, the display of natural products of the Argentine Republic in the Exhibition of Cordoba is well worthy of a trip from Europe to see.

The ores of Catamarca, Rioja, San Juan and Mendoza; native wines; the sugar, rum and tobacco from Tucuman; beautiful vicuña shawls and ponchos; the extraordinary embroideries of some of the upper provinces; the samples of cereals; the fleeces of wool from Buenos Ayres; the vast collection of medicinal herbs; the beautiful cabinet woods; the fine leather and tanned skins; the marbles of Cordoba and Corrientes; the live Vicuñas, Llamas, and Alpacas, all in the greatest profusion, mixed up with objects from foreign countries make the Exhibition a sight not only worth seeing, but worth studying.

The grounds alone ought to attract visitors. No lawns in England can boast of more velvety turf. And by the by, talking of turf a Cordobez said to me: "Did you ever see anything so vulgar? As if we had not sufficient 'pasto' in the Pampas they must fill the Exposition gardens with it!"

As far as collecting a golden harvest is concerned, the Cordobeses are acting on the principle that a bird in the hand is worth any number in the bush. They make hay while the sun shines; but after all it is only the green ones or the "young men from the country" who are thoroughly victimized. Old stagers get along well enough, and do not pay exorbitantly. However, there is no doubt that the good people of the pious city of Cordoba are killing the goose that was laying them golden eggs. So many people have been closely fleeced that there exists an universal terror of the Hotel-keepers and hackney coachmen of Cordoba. On the other hand, if the Cordobeses are fond of other people's money, they are equally fond of their own. As long as balls, dinners and fireworks are given them gratis, they show up considerably, but it is too much to expect of them the payment of a quarter or half of a dollar to enter the Exhibition where there is nothing but grass, trees, flowers and water, and a collection of objects, the production of their own country, and consequently not worth any notice.

The distribution of prizes, as I understand, will not take place before the 15th of January, in order to give time to the Jurors to give in their reports.

The Provincial Government is doing its best to destroy our direct commerce with Europe. The patents have become so exorbitant that Rosario commerce will have to give up all idea of importing or exporting direct. This is good news for Buenos Ayres.

We have had copious rains in the whole region between Rosario and Cordoba. The camps are beginning to look green, and the sheep will be able to strengthen themselves a little for the operation of shearing. The wheat of the Colonies is looking very well, and is now out of danger, and as the season promises well large quantities of maize are being planted. There will probably be large crops of both this year.

During the last three days the mortality at Rosario has been double its usual average; reasons not given by medical men. Amongst the deaths is that of an old and respected citizen, Don Domingo Palacio, in whose Estancia the celebrated battle of Pavon was lost and won in 1861.

The Governor of the Province, Dr. Iriondo, returned with his retinue from Cordoba last night. His Minister has gone up to have his turn at the Exhibition. The Governor will probably remain in Rosario for a couple of months.

I cannot give you lists of all the juries at the Exhibition. In fact, I do not think they are all named yet. That on agricultural implements and machinery of all kinds is composed of the following gentlemen, who commenced their operations at the grand trials held at Rio Segundo in December of last year, and where the STANDARD was the only paper in the country that was represented:

Messrs. Cleto Campillo, Fraile Mto. W. Perkins, Rosario.  
Carlos Tassier, B. Ayres.  
— Lawrence, Rosario.  
Ernest Ollendorf, B. Ayres.  
Agusto Largini, "  
Francisco Arenales, "

The jury on literary productions is composed of the following gentlemen, all hailing from the city of Doctors in Law:

Dr. Ignacio Velez.  
D. Ramon Gil Navarro.  
Dr. Luis Caceres.

## HAVE YOU SEEN THE SIERRAS?

Is the first question put to every new arrival as he descends from the train at the station of the Central Argentine Railroad at Cordoba. Have you seen the Sierras? was asked of your correspondent, as with carpet bag in hand he saluted Sr. Colodro, the proprietor of the Hotel del Paz, the best hotel in Cordoba, when he arrived at the door, out of breath, hot, tired and dusty, in search of lodgings. Have you seen the Sierras? asks the youthful Neapolitan as he rubs a media's worth of Day and Martin's over our dusty boots. Have you seen the Sierras? asks the proprietor of a popular stationery establishment not far from the STANDARD Office. I have not was my answer, and there and then we made up a party to go and see the Sierras.

At six o'clock next morning, while your exhausted correspondent was fast bound in the arms of Morpheus, dreaming of unpaid tailors' bills, the possible rise in postage stamps, unfinished account sales, and the thousand and one topics from which a trader's heart is never free, he was aroused by the sharp, short knock of the night porter, and was informed that 'my lord, the carriage waits.'

## Rubbing our eyes

and hastily donning our garments, we proceeded to the street door, where we found our friend comfortably seated in an elegant Jardineria, with a big hamper in front, which augured well for the day's paseo. With a 'hoop lah' from the driver, a crack of the whip, and a slight shout from a portly Montevidean coal merchant, the horses make an effort, and we are off for the Sierras.

Have you seen the Sierras? maliciously asks our driver, as we are fairly started. Annihilating the poor wretch with one of our most destructive glances, we snuffed the invigorating morning air fresh from the mountains, and gliding gaily and smoothly along a good road, we soon passed the outskirts of the town, around which lay a few most miserable quintas, dry, arid, and sandy. Passed the Cementerio a mile or mile and a half from Cordoba, and crossing over to the highway, we entered on the journey in earnest in search of the Sierras.

A few miles from the city we commence to meet bullock carts of the most primitive description, slowly winding along, loaded with marble from the quarries. This marble is of excellent quality, and your correspondent in his search for knowledge ascertained that it is extracted in large quantities, and is capable of receiving a very high polish. Samples have been reserved to be forwarded to augment the already unrivalled STANDARD Museum.

## A Fine Drive.

of about an-hour and a half brought us to the far famed and much talked of Sierras. Dismounting from the carriage, we entered the new hotel just erected by some enterprising Yankees. This hotel is beautifully situated at the foot of the Sierras, and on the banks of the River Primero. It was not as yet open to the public; but loads of furniture, crockery, etc. were piling in

in readiness for the opening on the Monday following.

Have you come to see the Sierras? shouted a stalwart Englishman, Capt. Andrews, as he welcomed us to the place, and invited us to partake of his hospitality. Here we passed hours climbing the lofty hills which abound in the vicinity, bathing in the limpid waters that flow over the pebbly bottom and sport playfully amongst the rocks, and visiting the cascade a few squares distant.

This place, as soon as the hotel is opened, will become a favorite resort for the citizens of Cordoba and for visitors from abroad. Indeed, it is well worth the ride to pass a night beneath the roof of the genial Boufface, and to breathe the generous, pure, free air as it comes filtering undefiled through the Sierras fresh from the far off Andes.

Let no man in search of the picturesque travel with a coal merchant, a schoolmaster, or a bookseller; if he does he is victimized. Nothing would do these worthies but to insist on the coachman driving across the river. As a matter of course, the coach stuck hard and fast in the middle of the stream; there was nothing for it but to pull off boots and stockings and to wade across: Coaches calmly watched our sorrows. The portly English stationer hard by the Club in Calle San Martin was first in; then followed the brave coal merchant, who, arm-in-arm with the millionaire pedagogue of Caballito, waded across to the other side. I held my seat with the driver, and escaped the trouble; But the sight of our Buenos Ayrean friends in such a plight was really a thing for the STANDARD. Some men are born travellers, others learn how to travel, and others have travelling thrust upon them: our friends were in the last category, and, completely done up, they implored to be taken back to the 'locus in quo' of the hamper.

## THE CHRISTYS.

The performance given on Wednesday night by the Christy Minstrels proved a great success, and must have been a rare treat to those present. The Coliseum was filled with a numerous audience of English-speaking people, as well as a few Porteños, who seemed highly pleased with the night's entertainment. We must congratulate Messrs. Norton and Steele on the very able manner in which the whole programme was carried out, and particularly their own share of it, which was unexceptionable. The

Chorus was very nicely gone through, and elicited considerable applause. 'I'll meet thee at the lane,' was well and sweetly sung by Mr. Steele. 'Naughty but nice,' and 'Finnigan's wake,' by Mr. Norton, created much mirth. 'Ella Leene,' was rather a dull affair, and would have been none the worse of a little more force and effect in its execution. 'Silver Moonlight winds are blowing,' by Mr. Melvyn, was very well sung, and in capital time. The 'Poultry Show' was glorious; Mr. Norton's inimitable imitation of hen-cackling and cock-crowing throwing the house into roars of laughter. The American Prize Jig was a thing well worth seeing. Mr. W. Norton's dancing is really superb, and anyone desirous of witnessing a unique Terpsichorean feat should by no means lose the opportunity of seeing this gentleman dance; well, indeed, does he merit the champion belt. Mr. Steele's performance on the pianoforte was admirable, and his playing on the violincello was, in our opinion, 'more exquisite still.' He played Thalberg's 'Home, sweet home' on the first instrument with great taste, and remarkable power, and on the last some operatic selections. The masterly way in which he handles the violincello is something extraordinary; in fact, he literally makes it 'speak.' Mr. Steele is entitled to the name of a thorough and efficient musician. The 'Anvil Chorus' was also very good, the clanging of the hammers chiming well with the music. 'Good bye, sweetheart, good bye,' sung by Mr. Leslie, called forth great applause and a vociferous encore; the singer was a little nervous, and seemed rather to run ahead of the accompaniment, but the voice was strong and full. Mr. Leslie requires only a little confidence to be a good singer. 'The Essence of Ole Virginny,' the 'Pilgrim Fathers,' and 'Scenes at the Opera,' were all good and mirth-inspiring. 'Ernani, Ernani, involami' being faultlessly sung by Mr. Norton in Prima Donna attire. A plantation walk round by the company wound up the evening. We hope Messrs. Norton and Steele will make their visit here a long one, and that they may meet with the success they so well deserve.



"SKELETONS IN THE CUPBOARD."

To the Editors of the STANDARD.

Gentlemen: Your journal has repeatedly called the attention of the authorities to the state of the Passenger Mole at Buenos Ayres...

This day's Tribuna announces that an unfortunate sailor, the preceding day, slipped through one of the holes of the mole, breaking his leg...

The National Government expends a large amount on a chimerical project, and quietly allows inoffensive people to run the risk of their lives. The Provincial Government attends to railways to the Andes...

Since the accident I notice some inch boards have been hastily nailed over the apertures. Before these decay it is to be hoped the Board of Engineers, Captain of the Port, or other authorities will take the work in hand...

I am, gentlemen, Yours obediently, ORIENTAL.

Oct. 24, 1871

THE ALPINE TUNNEL.

The total expenses of the Mont Cenis Tunnel amount to 65,000,000; of these 20,000,000 are to be contributed by the Victor Emmanuel Railway...

MISCELLANEOUS.

We observe that a skating establishment has been started in Calle Belgrano, two squares from the old STANDARD Office...

On Saturday the Provincial Senate definitely passed the law authorizing the Government to grant tramway concessions outside the municipal boundary of Buenos Ayres.

Mr. and Mrs. Cambaceres left yesterday for Paris in the Amazone. They were accompanied by their youngest son who has lately been appointed

Secretary to the Madrid Legation. The Argentine Government it appears, has some claims amounting to several millions of hard dollars against the Spanish Government...

The latest Paysandu papers state that the Blanco chief Benitez has fled to Brazil. Minister Ordóñez is at Mercedes busily engaged in 'sampling' the best cows to be found on the surrounding estancias.

From Rosario we learn that there is an extraordinary scarcity of horned cattle and sheep fit for consumption. Not a pound of beef was to be had on Friday last, on which day, according to the Capital, the price rose to the unheard of figure of 5 Bolivians per arroba.

The well known Hotel de Paris, in Cordoba, the favourite resort of the English and North American residents in that city, has lately been moved from its old quarters in the Plaza to No. 40 Calle San Geronimo.

We have been favored by Dr. Lamas, the future President of the Oriental Republic, with a lithographic print commemorating the Law of Emancipation in Brazil, with the portraits of the Emperor and the members of the present Cabinet.

An old gentleman, while crossing the Plaza Constitucion, at M'Video, on Saturday, had his trousers torn off and his leg bitten by a savage mastiff.

The death of Don Domingo Palacios at Sta. Fe has caused universal regret. Deceased was liberal in politics, and during a long and useful public career always endeavoured to promote the advancement of the Republic...

The Prensa says that the new Lord Mayor, Dr. Sagui, is about to resign the thorny position to which he was lately nominated, and will issue a manifesto explaining his reasons for so doing.

Two petitions to the Municipality of Quilmes are now under the consideration of that body, for the concession for a tramway from the station on the Boca and Ensenada Railway...

The Public Credit Office has published the notice of the payment of the coupons and amortization of the bonds of the loan of 1860, commonly called the Buschental Loan, on the 2nd November.

The last meeting of the Paraguayan Congress, before it was turned out of doors by Protector Rivarola, gave rise to a bloody fight at the bar of the House.

lee, in which four men were killed and twenty wounded, ensued. Rivarola has a guard of 200 men, mostly volunteers; and the inhabitants of Asuncion are represented as rather satisfied with his vigorous action...

On Monday week last, H. E. M. Le Maistre, German Minister to this Republic, made a tour of the Churches of Cordova, accompanied by our brother editor, who very kindly offered to act as cicerone...

In Mr. Stewart's monster house in New York 1730 persons, of whom 900 are women, are employed. In busy seasons the retail business of the establishment often reaches a value of £20,000 a day.

ON 'CHANGE.

Table with 2 columns: Item and Price. Includes Ounces, Sovereigns, Patacons, National Bonds, etc.

The Bond market ruled flat to-day. 1000 sold cash at 69, and 5200 for the end of the month at 69, closing at 69. This was the total business of the day in Bonds.

Exchange fell off to-day, and bills were done at 50, 51 and 51. The quotable rate is, however, 51, at which the market closed.

The law authorizing the Provincial Bank to make a loan to the National Government, to the extent of four million patacons, was signed to-day, and the directors have arranged to advance to the Government at the rate of 300,000 patacons per month on Custom House bills.

The inauguration of the new joint-stock Steam Sawing Company, Corralon, &c., at the Nuevo Corrales, takes place on Wednesday morning next.

The Public Credit Office has published the notice of the payment of the coupons and amortization of the bonds of the loan of 1860, commonly called the Buschental Loan, on the 2nd November.

It is rumored that the Argentine Bank has leased the fine building in Calle San Martin at present occupied by the Sala de Residentes Estrangeros, and that the Club will probably move to Sr Ocampo's house in the same street, recently known as the Louvre Hotel.

The following is a list of articles exhibited at the Cordoba Exposition by Messrs Moore and Tudor, of this market:

- Brandy—J. & F. Martell, Cognac, France. Biscuits—Peck, Fren & Co, London. Hollands Gin—Cornelius Langelaan, Rotterdam.

Preserved Milk—Newham, Mallow Ireland. A mercantile subscriber down from the Uruguay reports as follows—Heavy rains for several days, which completely stopped the shearing.

tevidian markets. There are many agents of other barracks on the 'qui vive' about the camp, and Mr. Everett of Montevideo, of the Barraca Argentina, has secured some excellent purchases.

We call attention to a recent decision by the Supremo Courts of Santa Fe upon the subject of gold payments. We will publish it on Tuesday.

The sale of from eight to nine thousand sheep belonging to the estate of the late Robert Nugent will take place on Tuesday next at the Juzgado of Giles, and not at the Cabildo of Buenos Ayres, as erroneously stated.

Mr. Ernest Roquand, so well known in Barracas, has hit on a new and most promising business—the manufacture of oil from fishes.

Messrs. Woodgate in their circular for the packet give the following: Salt—Import 19,016 fanegas, last sale 10 1/2 rls.

Freights—We close this month the shipping season of 1870—71, having exported only 327,991 tons against 397,722 last year and 318,854 the year before.

Steamer Republica, from Montevideo. Do Rio de la Plata, do. Do Taraguay, do. Do Uruguay, from Salto.

The Bond market ruled without the slightest animation. There was nothing sold cash, and for to-morrow, the end of the month, 25,000 at 69. One of our principal brokers returned from Cordoba to-day. His absence from the market for the last three weeks has been felt.

There was very little done in exchange to-day. Some bills on England were done at 51, but for a trifling amount.

Argentine Bank shares, 20 sold at 10 1/2 prem. Some sales in Transandine Telegraph and Gas shares at reserved rates are spoken of.

President Sarmiento has declined to re-assume the reins of government or a few days; probably on Thursday he will assume office.

The telegram from Montevideo to-day gave the following: Isabel from Rio Grande, Alfred from Montreal, Andes from Glasgow, Zoroaster from Liverpool, Hilda and Carrie from Honolulu.

Mr. Giebert, the manager of the Liebig Extract of Meat Co. at Fray Bentos, has not yet arrived. He is expected back from Europe in a few weeks.

In the South Market there were few sales to-day. One lot of very fine wool (English) bought

outside for 75, was resold in the market to-day at 95. Also— 2000 arrobes ..... 83 1000 do ..... 85 2000 do ..... 88 to 95

There is great speculation going on in wool in the camp. Special agents are running through all parts of the country making contracts with estanciaeros.

Our special Rosario correspondent gives the following important advices— The barque Margaretha was despatched on Monday for Hamburg with 5,400 hides and 12 bales of wool.

A very important decision has been given by the Supreme Court. The Prov. Legislature passed a law obliging the banks to redeem their notes payable in Bolivian money with gold, if required to do so.

Arrivals of English Vessels: Ann Griffiths, West Hartlepool, railway iron. Vivandiere, Glasgow, do. Satellite, Middleborough, do.

Departures: Helen, to load at San Nicolas, Oct. 14. Elizabeth, do Zarate, do. Rachel Davis, for Liverpool, produce, 13th.

The total sales of dry ox and cow hides during the last fortnight are 49,000 hides. The total stock of all classes remaining unsold 18,000 hides.

In American Hides—Sales 23,000. Entre Rios at 59 to 53 1/2 rls. 'al barrer.' Concordia at 48 to 50 rls do.

In German Hides—Sales 12,000 hides, viz: Matadero ox at 52 rls for 33 to 34 lbs. average. Matadero cows at 52 rls for 23 lbs. average.

In French, Spanish, and Italian hides—Sales, 14,000 do. Stock—5,000 hides. American desechos at 45.

TEMPERATURE.

Table with 2 columns: Date and Temperature. Includes October 23—Tuesday, 2 p.m. Fahrenheit 69. October 25—Wednesday, 2 p.m. Fahrenheit 67.

DEATHS.

October 26, at the house of Mr Corrales, Calle Sola, George Gibbett, aged 85 years. Deceased was a native of Newcastle-on-Tyne, and a resident of this country for 63 years.

The WEEKLY STANDARD—Printed and published every Wednesday at the Standard Printing-office, 118 Calle San Martin, by the Proprietors and Editors, M. G. and E. T. MULHALL.