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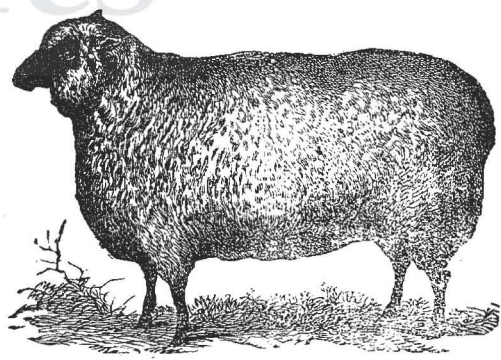
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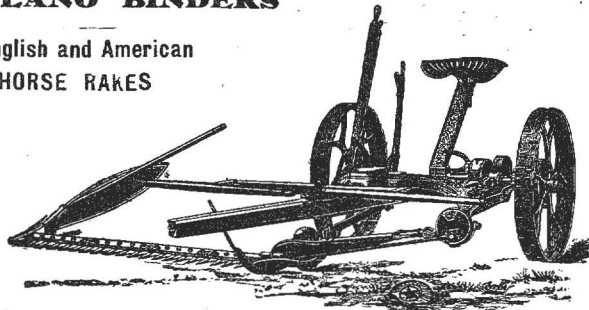
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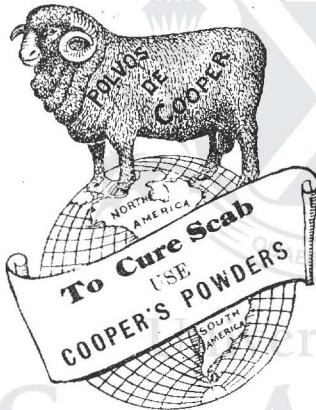
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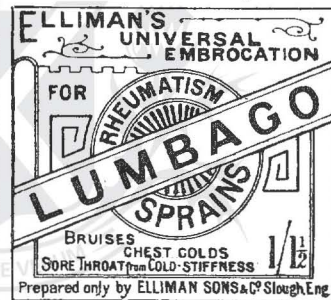
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HOME NEWS

RACING

HURST PARK—December 29

Maiden Hurdle Race, 2 miles:
Mr T. Cannon's Sea Wall by Ocean Wane, 10 st 7 lb
Mawson 1
Betting, 5 to 1 agst—10 ran.

Slough Hunter's Steeplechase, 3 miles:
Mr F. Swan's Beauty by Bertram, 11 st 7 lb . . .Dollery 1
Betting, 5 to 2 on—3 ran.

Selling Hunter's Flat Race, 2 miles:
Capt. Homfray's Cyrii II by Thurio, 12 st 3 lb
Mr W. H. Moore 1

Old Year Handicap Steeplechase, about 2 miles:
Mr O. H. Jones' Funny Face, 10 st 2 lbEllis 1
Betting, 10 to 1 agst—7 ran.

Hurst Selling Hurdle Race, 2 miles:
Mr Ryall's Naseby by Holmby, 12 st 3 lbDollery 1
Betting, 4 to 1 agst—7 ran.

December 30.

Middlesex Hunt Steeplechase, 3 miles:
Mr E. Loder's Field Marshall by Border
Minstrel, 12 st 3 lbMr Crawley 1
Betting, 11 to 4 on—2 ran.

Wentworth Hunter's Steeplechase, 2 miles:
Mr F. Ball's Lisnore by Tattoo 11 st 6 lb . . .Mr Bewicke
Betting, 85 to 40 on—4 ran.

Selling Hunters Race, 2 miles:
Mr Harding Cox's Handley Cross by Lord
Hastings, 11 st 12 lbCapt. E. R. Owen 1
Betting, 7 to 1 agst—11 ran.

Christmas Handicap Hurdle Race, 2 miles:
Mr G. S. Gunnis' Anaconda by Blue Ruin,
10 st 12 lbCapt. Barry 1
Betting, 10 to 1 agst—12 ran.

Wolsey Selling Hurdle Handicap, 2 miles:
Mr S. Woodland's Serena by Hampton, 11 st
3 lbMr R. Woodland 1

MANCHESTER—January 1.

Friday Selling Hurdle Race, 2 miles:
Mr Hamilton's Theodoric, 11 st 13 lbWalsh 1
Betting, 9 to 4 agst—5 ran.

Manchester Handicap Steeplechase, 2½ miles:
Major Fisher's Eccentric, 11 st 3 lbCapt. Barry 1
Betting, 5 to 2 agst—5 ran.

New Year Handicap Hurdle Race, 2 miles:
Mr H. Hall's Lord Marmion, 12 stDaniells 1
Betting, 4 to 1 agst.

Selling Hurdle Race Plate, 2 miles:
Mr R. Moncrieff's Ding Dong, 11 st 11 lbOwner 1
Betting, 6 to 4 agst—4 ran.

Club Steeplechase Plate, 2½ miles:
Mr Armstrong's Lux, 11 st 7 lbG. Williamson 1
Betting, 5 to 2 agst—8 ran.

FOOTBALL

RUGBY.

Rugby Union Championship.

The postponed meeting between Cheshire and Cumberland took place at Runcorn on December 30th, and after a close game Cheshire retired victorious by two goals (one dropped) and one try (eleven points) to one goal (dropped) and two tries (eight points).

An enormous assemblage was present at Abbey Park, Northampton, on Dec. 28th, to witness the match between North Bucks and South Northamptonshire. Strong teams were put in the field, and an interesting, well contested, and even game ended in a win for North Bucks by two tries to nil.

The Barbarians' team, which is composed of members of various clubs in the south, began their Christmas tour at Exeter on Dec. 26th with a match against a strong team representing Devonshire. The turf, owing to the recent frost, was in execrable condition, and the play consequently suffered, and nothing was scored by either side during the match.

On Dec. 29th the Barbarians met the Huddersfield at Huddersfield under most unpleasant circumstances. In the first half the home team had the worst of the game, but matters changed in the latter part of the match, and they eventually won by a goal and a try (seven points) to a try.

The last match of the Barbarians' unsuccessful tour took place at Swinton on the following day against Swinton. The home team showed superior combination, and eventually won by a goal and two tries, or nine points to nothing.

The Barbarians' team this year consists of C. M. Wells (Cam. Univ., back), C. A. Hooper (Gloucester),

R. L. Ashton (Blackheath), A. N. D. Fegan (Surrey)—three-quarter backs; F. H. Fox (Somerset), W. R. N. Leake (Surrey)—half backs; R. D. Budworth (Blackheath), E. G. H. North (Blackheath), S. M. J. Woods (Somerset), P. F. Hancock (Somerset), W. H. Manfield (Somerset), W. P. Carpmal (Blackheath), P. Maud (Blackheath), H. Boucher (Somerset), F. Soane (Somerset)—forwards.

In Ireland the Bective Rangers, as usual, played a match against Albion on St. Stephen's Day, and after a hard game were victorious by a try to nothing. The ground was very heavy, and the game was chiefly confined to the forwards.

Manningham visited Ireland and played a couple of matches during the last week of December, one against Lansdowne, and another against the Bective Rangers. In the first, after having much the best of the game all through, Manningham won very easily by two goals and two tries to one try, a result chiefly owing to the scratch team that Lansdowne was only able to whip up. A much more exciting game was witnessed in their match against the Rangers, and the victory eventually gained by Manningham was only snatched out of the fire in the last five minutes, their score standing, at the call of time, one goal and a try, or four points to two.

Frost upset most of the Scotch football arrangements for the end of last year, and the matches that were played were decided on very slippery turf. Watsonians beat the Glasgow Academicals at Edinburgh by a goal (five points) to nothing, and this was the only Rugby fixture of any importance which had not to be postponed.

ASSOCIATION

Very few Association matches of any importance were decided in the last week of December, the matches in the first round of the competition proper for the Football Association Challenge Cup not being set down for decision until January 16th.

The casuals were beaten by Derby County at Derby by five goals to two, drew with Gainsborough Trinity with three goals each, were beaten by Sheffield United by seven goals to two, and drew with Lincoln City with four goals each, a not very successful tour.

Nearly 20,000, an almost incredible number of spectators, assembled at the Nottingham ground on Boxing Day to witness the thirty-first meeting between Nottingham County and Nottingham Forest. The Clubs met last in October, when the Forest were successful by three goals to one, and in this, the return match, they won by one goal to none, leaving them, out of the thirty-one matches played, still a goal to the bad. Vigorous and not foul play appeared to have been the order of the day, and as an exposition of first-class football, the match was voted as the most interesting witnessed on the ground during the season.

SKATING.

THE CHAMPIONSHIP.

Hamar, in Norway, was the scene last month of the great races, which aroused the attention to a great extent of both Norwegian and English skaters, between Harold Hagen, the Norwegian Champion, and James Smart, the English Champion. Three races were arranged, one, three and five miles respectively, and the first race, one of five miles, came off on December 27th.

A large crowd collected round the course. There was very little wind, and the ice was in splendid condition; the temperature was only a few degrees below freezing and a few flakes of snow were falling. Hagen was dressed in white, with ear caps, whilst Smart was dressed in blue. Hagen, some 6ft. 1in. high, quite towered over his opponent. At the word "Go," both started leisurely. Hagen had the inside course, which is some sixteen yards shorter than the outside one. At the first turn Hagen made good use of his power of getting round the curves, and in the next straight was twenty yards ahead. All felt that Smart must pull up in the straight what he lost on the curves, for at each turn he lost some seven yards or more, and with sixteen curves that meant some 112 yards to recover. Up to the fifth round, Hagen skated quite as fast as Smart in the straights, but then Smart began to overhaid him in spite of the seven yards loss at each end. Then Hagen made a great effort, and, though rolling considerably, he prevented Smart lessening the distance, and came in a winner by about seventy yards. He was apparently much more exhausted than Smart, for, although our champion could not quicken sufficiently to overtake Hagen, his last two miles were the fastest of the five, and he had got enough left to have travelled much further.

There was no question about whose style was the better. Every one was full of admiration for Smart's skating, in which there was none of that labouring which Hagen showed, and it was also universally admitted that in the straights the Englishman went the faster—certainly during the latter half of the race. The times were wonderful, and had the writer not himself (says the *Field's* correspondent) measured the course and taken the times with four or five others, he must have felt incredulous. As it is, there can be no doubt about the times. Hagen occupied 15min. 11sec., and James Smart 15 min. 19 2/5 sec. Certainly everything was favourable for fast time; but those accomplished are simply astonishing, and place these two men as the two fastest skaters in the world.

The one and three miles races between Smart and Hagen were to have been decided on January the 3rd, but we have not yet heard the results.

THE AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP

The Amateur Championship was decided on Swavesey Fen, a very fine sheet of ice close to the Swavesey station on the line between Cambridge and Huntingdon. A large number of people were present, and the ice was in capital condition, which, last fact makes it hard to understand why the times were so very far behind those made last season. As will be seen from the tables below, W. Housden came out as the winner, doing the mile and a half in minutes 42 4/5 secs.

AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP RACE, under the new rules (time tests); one mile and a half, with three turns; the winner to receive gold medal and to be holder of the the challenge cup, with the title of Amateur Champion of Great Britain, the second to receive a silver medal.

FIRST ROUND

J. Goodman, St. Ives, beat L. Aveling, March.
W. Housden, Upware, beat L. Tebbutt, Cambridge.
E. James, St. Ives, beat C. Brady, Cowbit.
B. Tarring, Houghton beat H. Markiller, Wisbech.
J. Searle, Waterbeach, beat J. D. Rose, Great Stukeley.
J. F. Palmer, Surbiton Hill, a bye.
W. Loveday, Welney (champion), beat W. Wadsley, Wisbech.
R. C. Aveling, March, beat A. Housden, Upware.

FINAL ROUND

Goodman beat Rose. Loveday beat Searle.
Housden, a bye, Tebbutt retired.

The following table will show the times taken by the competitors for the one and a half miles in order of merit. The remaining three did not complete the course.

	M. S.		M. S.
W. Housden	5 42	James	6 15
L. Tebbutt	5 42 1/5	Markiller	6 24
Searle	5 56	R. Aveling	6 30
Loveday	6 0	Wadsley	6 34
Rose	6 35 1/2	A. Housden	6 42 1/2
Goodman	6 105 1/5	Palmer	7 12

The six fastest skaters were then paired off, the two fastest meeting, and so on for the three pairs. The result was:

	M. S.		M. S.
W. Housden	5 42 4/5	Rose	5 59 2/5
W. Loveday	5 46 1/5	Searle	6 12 4/5
Goodman	5 56 3/5		

WINNERS OF THE AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP

- 1879-80.—F. Norman, Willingham Fen (contest at Hendon).
- 1880-81.—F. Norman, Willingham Fen (contest at Cambridge).
- 1881 to 1886.—No contest.
- 1886-1887.—R. Wallis, jun., (Thorney contest at Spalding).
- 1887-1888.—No contest.
- 1888-89.—W. Loveday, Welney (contest at Lingay Fen).
- 1889-90.—No contest.
- 1890-91.—W. Loveday, Welney (contest at Lingay Fen).
- 1891-92.—W. Housden, Wicken Fen, Upware (contest at Swavesey Fen).

THREE MEN IN A BOAT, TO SAY NOTHING OF TWO DOGS

A SHOOTING EXPEDITION

(Continued).

Anton and Huc were both in favour of our catching some of my horses and clearing out, but I did not see the force of this. If we kept quiet that night the deserters would in all probability go on their way next day; in fact, we did not even know that they were already gone, and even supposing they should camp on our island that night, they could not remain where they had nothing to eat, and there were neither deer nor ostriches here, and they could not shoot duck with their rifles. At last I brought them round to my way of thinking, and so we remained. Of course we could do nothing that afternoon, so we passed the time on our backs smoking.

We had some ducks and plenty of fish, as we always got a good supply from our night lines, which we inspected every morning the first thing. But we took the precaution of digging a deep hole to make our fire at night, so that the blaze might not betray our whereabouts. At sunset we put our tent up, though well out of sight, for the nights were beginning to get cold now as the summer was nearly over. My horses were all hobbled in the trefoil, and everything was as snug as we could make it.

About nine o'clock we went up to the top of the sand bar behind the tents to have a look round, and there away to the south we saw two little fires, plainly showing where the deserters had camped for the night. We could not be sure at that distance whether they were on the island or not; but if they were not they were only just outside. We decided then that Huc should go at the first streak of dawn to the tree which was

scored by the tiger's claws, and climb up it, as from there he would be able to see what they were up to without being seen himself, as the foliage would hide him completely. Accordingly next morning we were up early, had coffee, and started him off. He was to come back directly they went off, and give us notice; Anton and I remained at the tent. Nine o'clock came, ten, eleven, and Huc did not turn up. We began to get anxious, so picking up our rifles we started off to look for him. We found him all right, sitting in a fork, but the foliage of the tree was so dense that we did not discover him until we were right underneath. His report was that four men had ridden away towards the west just after sunrise, and had not come back; that the others were there, as he had seen their horses, and one man had gone to round them up shortly before we arrived. I sent him back to the tent to get some food, and went up the tree myself. When he came back he took my place; but there was no news that day, and they did not show any signs of moving.

The next two days passed in the same manner, and we were beginning to get sick of it, especially as we had no meat and could catch no fish either, as we dared not go to the laguna. At night we could hear the men talking and shouting, and by day we could see the smoke of their fire, so we knew they were there, though we could not see them. But the fourth morning, about nine o'clock, Anton and I were sitting in the tent, in no very amiable frame of mind, when we suddenly heard the old familiar air "Jai de bon tabac;" a smile came over his weather beaten phiz, and he said, "Nom de dieu, let us go and catch some fish; I am hungry enough to eat a dead baby." I was hungry enough, too, in all conscience, though I hardly think my appetite would have led me to such extremes. When Huc came in he told us that at last the siege was raised, but only nine men had gone, leading two horses. It was clear, therefore, that two of their number had gone to the majority. Well, we set off to bale out the boat (and a lot of trouble we had to do it), and started to look up our trimmers. We made Tyke and Tigre run along the shore, as they had been cooped up for four days, and a good thing they did, for they caught and worried two "nutrias" in no time. A nutria (I don't know the scientific name), is the exact image of an enormous rat, only they measure about sixteen inches from the nose to the root of the tale, which appendage is, perhaps, as much more, and a good big one would weigh about fourteen pounds; the fur, when the long hairs have been pulled out, is very much like seal skin. They live on grass. I don't like their flesh, but we were very glad to have it now, for we dared not fire off a gun that day for fear those confounded deserters should hear the report and return to see who had fired. We could only find two of our trimmers, the third, I suppose, had been carried bodily off. On the two we found there were plenty of fish, but they had evidently been dead since the first day and did not look tempting, so we threw them back into the water again, and went home with the nutrias, of which Huc made a capital stew with rice and pepper.

We dined well that afternoon, and made up our minds that if we saw no more of our friends before morning we would go and look up the scene of the fight early next day. So, next morning, we set off, I on horseback with the dogs, and Anton and Huc in the boat. We found the remains of their camp fires, and the remains of deer and peludos showed us that they had only been living on what they could catch in camp and had evidently only made a halt there to rest their horses. I next rode over the river to have a look at the place where the fight had been, and as we found the water was only about three feet deep, Anton and Huc pulled off their "breeks" and followed. We found two dead soldiers, the one we had seen first and another. The first, as we supposed, had had his head stove in by a bola, and the other had a lance wound in his chest, which had gone slap through him and come out at his back. Close by was lying an Indian, probably the one who had killed him, for he had his head split open by a sabre cut, which showed that he must have come to close quarters. What pleased us most was that the carbines and sabres of the dead soldiers were left, and these we annexed, as they would be very useful to us. I also took a sabre belt, which was nearly new, and a good one, and it lasted me a good many years. We then went to interview the two dead Indians, who were lying about thirty yards off. One was an old man, by the look of his face, and I noticed that his teeth were worn quite away in front, level with the gums, like a very old dog's. He must have been

quite sixty, though his hair was quite black. Two bullets in the chest had given him his quietus. The other was quite a young fellow, not more than twenty-two or three, and did not look like a regular Pampa Indian, for he must have stood over six feet. I put him down as a Aurocano or Chilian Indian, who are finer men, as a rule, and far braver than the Puelches or Pampa Indians. A bullet, just above his right eye, had sent him to the happy hunting grounds. He must have been a plucky fellow too and begun early, as he had two old scars of bullets, one in the shoulder and one in the left thigh, while three deep scars down his chest looked as though they had been made by a tiger's claws. The soldiers had taken all their clothes except two pairs of boleadors, which I took possession of, as they would, no doubt, be very useful on some future expedition. We had not done badly, on the whole: two Remingtons, two sabres, three lances—which Huc would not leave, saying that they would come in handy for punting our boat—and two pairs of boleadores. I wish I had possessed a camera then to have photographed Huc and Anton, they looked such an extraordinary pair. Anton, about six feet high and very thin, had nothing on but a broad-brimmed hat and a very short shirt, and with his long, spindle shanks looked just like a large bird with its tail pulled out. He had two rifles over one shoulder and a cavalry sabre tucked under one arm. Huc, a little bit of a chap, had two rifles on one shoulder, the three lances on the other, and a cavalry sabre hung at his waist. His shirt was even shorter than Anton's, so it was just as well, perhaps, that I had no camera. The lances were regular works of art. The shafts, or handles, were fully sixteen feet long, and the points of two consisted of long, narrow steel blades, about eighteen inches long, beautifully polished, and only an inch wide, though sharp on both edges. The third for a head had an old triangular bayonet straightened out. These were fixed on to the handles by a piece of horse hide, very neatly sewn, and each one had a tuft of white horse-hair at the joint. The handles were "ta-cuara" cane, which is solid, and very hard and finely polished.

We now made the best of our way back to the boat, well pleased with our excursion. As for the dead men, we left them where they lay; in the first place we had nothing to bury them with, and if we had they would only have been dug up by skunks or foxes.

For the next few days we got very little sport; the ducks and swans were getting wild and we saw no more tigers, though we heard one roaring one night, doubtless lamenting the fate of the one we had slain; so we determined to make a move. The following morning, as soon as we had breakfasted, we pulled down our tent and folded it up, collected our pots, pans, &c., &c., then set to work to get the boat out of the water, and we had a terrible tussle to do this, but at last we had her high and dry on the top of the sand bar; I next caught and saddled an old horse and tying the painter on to the ring of my hide girth we started, Anton and Huc helping, one on each side. It was a pretty heavy pull till we got her out of the long, dry gass, but then, as she was flat bottomed, she slid over it like a sleigh, and in less than an hour we had her floating in the narrow stream where we crossed first with the cart. In two journeys more we had brought everything else, and prepared to start. Huc now said he was sure he had been intended by Nature for a horseman, and if I were willing he would ride my horse and drive the others along the bank to our next camping ground. I was perfectly willing, as riding was no novelty to me and boating was, so after having given him minute instructions as to how to guide and stop the animal we left him in charge. He was going to mount on the wrong side, but Anton shouted out to him and told him to go round to the other, which he did; he put his foot into the stirrup and gave a most terrific bound, and disappeared over the other side on to his head. The best of it was that he laid all the blame on Anton and said that if he had only left him alone he would have been all right. Luckily the horse was a tame one and took no notice. Anton and I nearly died with laughter, which made Huc all the more riled, and then we left him to his own devices. The boat was pretty heavily laden with our tent, stores, and odds and ends, and drew nearly eight inches, so punting was rather hard work, but we took it in turns, one punting while the other sat in the bows with my gun to get a stray shot at anything that might come within range. Anton got a lovely shot at some geese and dropped one, and later on I got a right and left at duck, bagging them both. This

put us at our ease concerning the comisariat department for that night, at least. Tyke and Tigre meanwhile were hunting nutrias on the banks on their own hook. The canal we were now following was for the most part about twenty yards broad and fringed on the south side by tall canes and reeds, on the left hand, or northern there was a bank or small cliff from four to five feet high, and perfectly honeycombed with nutria holes. Beyond this the camp was level, only covered with tall esparto grass, which grew to a height of nearly five feet. The continued curves of the river prevented us from seeing ahead more than a couple of hundred yards at a time, which made our journey all the more interesting, as at each bend some fresh scene presented itself. I knew that about five miles from the island we had just left, the river broadened out into a large and wide laguna, on the southern shore of which there was a tall sand hill rising some eighty feet or more above the level of the plain and surmounted by a plant of prickly pear. This formed a splendid place for bivouac, as the summit provided a view of all the camp for miles round. It was all very well to stay one night at, but would not suit our purpose in the present instance, as it was far too exposed, and should we one fine morning make the discovery of any Indians or deserters we should not have time to get hidden away before we, in our turn, were pounced on.

It was very hot, and gliding down the stream, as we were shut in on both sides, we could only get a glimpse of the sky immediately over head, but now and then we could hear a distant rumbling, which sounded suspiciously like thunder, and if we were going to have a storm we ought to hurry up, so as to get comfortably settled for the night before it burst, as it would be quite useless trying to pitch our tent afterwards. I knew well what the storms on the Pampas were, having been out in several before this. Accordingly we both set to work with a will, and in about half an hour our eyes were gladdened by the sight of the laguna stretching away in front of us. Five minutes later we had grounded at the foot of the sand hill and were scrambling up its side.

(To be continued.)

GARDENING NOTES

FLOWER GARDEN.

If watering has been well attended to, the Flower Garden should be looking its best at the present time, and the principal work just now will be the keeping of everything as tidy as possible. Where roses have made a strong growth let them be slightly cut back, cutting the strongest shoots only, when they will break away again and give some nice flowers towards the latter end of February.

Gladioli bulbs that have been kept over for late flowering should be planted now; let the ground be quite dry, and slightly manured if at all poor. Should bulbs not have been kept over from spring, imported bulbs will be now found in the market.

From now on to the middle of the month will be a good time to get in a sowing of seeds of Autumn flowering plants, such as Pansies, Dianthi, Phlox Drummondii, Myosotis, or "Forget-me-nots," Anthrribmbii, &c. Make a bed in the open garden three feet wide, have it dug and well watered twenty-four hours before sowing the seeds, then rake it finely, forming a small ridge all round the bed. Make a mixture of soil composed of three barrow-loads of ordinary soil, one of sand, and one of well-rotted manure; mix all thoroughly together, put half an inch of the mixed soil all over the beds; water well and sow the seeds, covering them slightly with soil, and then spreading some fine stable manure well broken up over them, which will prevent the ground from getting hard and dry until the seedlings get through. Should the weather continue dry, water carefully every afternoon.

Attend to the staking of Chrysanthemums as they require it, thinning out the buds so as to leave only two or three on each stem where it is desired to have large flowers, and discontinue manure and water after the flower buds appear.

Anyone interested in Daisies and having a little spare time and space may easily raise a few seedlings. Half the number raised may possibly produce single flowers, but the other half will, in most cases, consist of double kinds of good forms. The colours may vary from pure white to deep crimson, intermediate hues being, for the most part, delicate shades of pink. As

the seed is small it is best to sow in either pans or boxes. As soon as the plants are ready to handle, have them picked out in beds about three inches apart each way; give plenty of water and shade slightly from strong sun; keep free from weeds and stir the ground amongst the plants occasionally, and by spring they will be nice plants for bedding out. Those which produce single flowers should be thrown away and those only with double flowers retained.

ZOOLOGICAL NOTES

By A. STUART PENNINGTON

(Zoologist to the Sociedad Rural Argentina).

ANTS.

Whilst the locust is only an occasional invader of Argentine territory, it may be said of the ants that, like the poor, they are ever with us. Very few quintas, be they large or small, but are more or less laid under tribute by that omnipresent insect whose activity excited the admiration of Solomon in old times and excites our consternation in the present day.

The ant is no respecter of persons, and will devastate the small garden of a poor cottager with the same gusto as the chacra of his more wealthy neighbour.

No less than fifty-eight species of ants have been let loose upon this Republic, and claim to hold it against its human inhabitants, or if, in their gracious condescension they permit the latter to occupy it, it is only on condition of paying a large tribute in kind to the Ant Kingdom.

Professor Berg, at present director of the Museum of Montevideo, and formerly Professor of Natural Science in the Buenos Aires University and National College, a man as distinguished by the courtesy and urbanity of his manner as by his scientific research, has made the ants of this country his special study, and in the "Anales de la Sociedad Científica Argentina" (tomo xxix, p. 5) has published a complete list of the species known up to the year 1890. Of the 58 species found in Argentina, 10 are believed to be exclusively Argentine, that is, not found so far at all events in other countries. The remaining 48 species are found either in Brazil, Chili, or Uruguay. Doubtless as the Chaco, Misiones, and other National territories be better known, the number of species will become considerably increased. It is not my intention to enter at length into the life history of the ant tribes. Those who wish to do so can find much to interest them in the works of Lubbock ("Ants, Bees, and Wasps") and in other books of Entomology. A few general remarks are, however, necessary. Ants belong to the section of insects Hymenoptera, whose distinguishing characteristics are the possession of four wings and a mouth containing parts for biting and licking. The female (not the male, of course) has generally a sting. If she has not a sting she has an ovipositor, and often uses the latter, not like the sawfly, to make holes in wood, but to make holes and lay her eggs in the bodies of other insects. The hymenoptera are not nice people to know, as we should say if we were members of the insect community. The aculeata or sting bearing hymenoptera may be divided broadly into three classes—ants, bees, and wasps, all of whom possess the curious feature of having the abdomen stalked or connected with the thorax by a short stalk. They look sometimes as if the thorax and abdomen were connected by a hyphen. The stingless hymenoptera have the abdomen sessile, that is, joined directly to the thorax.

The ants are social insects, living together in communities. There are males and females which become winged during a short period of their existence, and in addition there are workers always wingless, really sexless, but with sufficient of the female about them to be able to sting. The workers are aborted females.

The poison of the ants is an acid secretion known as formic acid, and this is either directly injected into the wound by a sting, as in the case of the bee and wasp, or it is poured over a wound produced by a bite. The ants which have no stings possess the power of ejecting their poison a considerable distance, and it is owing to this fact that it is sometimes hurtful to the eye to look too closely at an ants' nest and that a nest often has a strong smell of acid, like vinegar.

In addition to the ordinary workers some species of ants have special neuters or workers

told off as soldiers, and distinguished by their large head and powerful mandibles.

I have often been asked how it is that sometimes we see ants with wings. The true male and female ants are winged, and take their marriage flight in the air. After their union the males die and the females lose their wings and either re-enter their old nests to lay eggs there or go off with a body of workers to form new colonies. The marriage flight may be observed on a warm summer day, when thousands of winged ants will be seen disporting themselves in the air.

The larvae, which are hatched from the eggs, are always without legs. They come out in spring and are fed by the workers. After awhile they become enclosed in a sort of cocoon, and are then known as the pupa. These pupae are what are popularly called ants' eggs, and are the small bodies, like grains of corn, which we see the ants carry off with such care when their nests are attacked.

Like the fairies in "Iolanthe" ants "have their uses." The New Zealanders use their crushed bodies in the making of the celebrated Wouali poison. It is said that in Switzerland ants are crushed into a poultice and used to cure headache. And a peculiar use of these insects is made in some part of Europe by children, who place a wet branch across the nest of the large wood ant, and when it is well covered brush off the insects and suck the hot vinegar.

"In Germany, in the Black Forest, and other parts, the large wood ants are collected with their nests and boiling water is poured over them. This water is afterwards used for bathing. Ants are also collected and infused in weak spirit to make a lotion for sprains and rheumatism."—"Staveley's British Insects."

Ants are divided into three great classes, *Myrmecidae*, *Poneridae* and *Formicidae*. These are distinguished as follows: The *Myrmecidae* have only one joint or node in the coupling which unites the thorax to the abdomen.

The *Poneridae* and *Formicidae* have two joints or nodes in this coupling. In the *Myrmecidae* and *Poneridae* the females and neuters have stings. In the *Formicidae* the poison is ejected out of a poison gland, but the wound is previously made by the jaws.

The most commonly observed Argentine species of ants are the following:

Myrmecidae—

Crematogaster quadriformis.—Found in flowers, dry fruits, and withered plants.

Solenopsis geminata.—Common on plants or below stones. Makes nests leaning against stones, &c., to a height of about a foot.

Monomorium Pharaonis.—Generally distributed. Has been found on board ship looking after the sugar.

Pogonomyrmex conicularius.—Found by Dr. Berg in the Cerro de las Animas of Tandil under a stone. It makes a nest in form of a snail shell, which may measure half a metre in diameter.

Pheidole Bergi.—Prof. Mayr gave the specific name Bergi to this species, after its discoverer, who found it abounding in Adrogué, where it makes holes in the ground which communicates with ramified canals.

Atta hystrix.—Popularly called hormiga colorada, s found in all parts of the camp.

Atta Luridi, or hormiga negra, is the most destructive species in the country, and is the species whose efforts are so successful in bringing to nought the hopes of the gardener, as the ants proceed upon a perfect understanding of the advantage of division of labour. Some of the workers climb the plant and cut off the leaves, which fall down and are collected by other workers waiting on purpose below. It is the species which generally chooses the most inaccessible part of the house (as below the kitchen grate or well away under the middle of the sala floor) to make its nest.

Poneridae—

Dinoponera Grandis.—The largest South American species. Found in Corrientes and Misiones. Its sting produces great pain and swelling.

Formicidae—

Iridomyrmex humilis.—Found solitary in the neighbourhood of Buenos Aires.

Prenolepis fulva.—Common by the banks of streams and especially in the neighbourhood of decayed animal matter. It is of a yellowish colour, and may often be observed near kitchens in the camp.

Camponotus punctulatus.—The colonies abound in all parts, below stones, bits of wood, and other objects, in trunks of rotten trees, &c., and soli-

tary individuals are found in the ground and various classes of shrubs, principally in the Misiones. This species has been observed by Dr. Berg in an old beehive.

"Can you tell me how to get rid of ants?" This question, often put, reminds me of one I once put to a Doctor in England, "Can you tell me how to get rid of neuralgia?" His reply was: "Patience."

The way to get rid of ants is by patiently persecuting them, as the natives say, until they are tired of attacking your particular garden and pass on to your neighbour. Of course, if you can get at the nest and take it out bodily, all the better, but very often the ants have provided against that by making it in an inaccessible part. Many so-called "ant-killers" have been advertised, and are, no doubt, good if applied with patience and perseverance, but ants are like locusts and other insect plagues, far too numerous to be easily exterminated.

POLO NOTES

HURLINGHAM TOURNAMENT.

The following is the programme of the Polo Pony Meeting to be held during the Polo Tournament at Hurlingham, on Monday the 29th of February:

1. FLAT RACE, 500 metres; entrance \$10.
2. BENDING RACE, 8 posts, 8 yards apart; entrance \$5.
3. FLAT RACE, 1000 metres; entrance \$10.
4. JUMPING COMPETITION; entrance \$5.
5. BAREBACK RACE, 1000 metres; entrance \$5.
6. TANDEM RACE, 1000 metres; entrance \$10.
7. HURDLE RACE, 1600 metres, over 5 flights of hurdles; entrance \$10.

All the events are open to bona fide polo ponies only, 14 hands or under, and all entries must be signed by the secretary of the club the ponies have been played with, who shall be responsible for their being properly described.

For races Nos. 1, 3 and 6 the weights will be catch weights, not under 70 kilos.

Winners at a Hurlingham Meeting cannot compete in events Nos. 1, 3, 5, 6 and 7.

Gentlemen jockeys or members of a polo club only allowed to ride.

Entries close on Saturday February 20th, and must be addressed to The Secretary, 685 Canello, Buenos Aires.

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River Plate Sport and Pastime.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 1892.

NOTES

The Club Nacional's Regatta at Montevideo, which was to have taken place last Sunday, has been postponed until Sunday, February 7th.

The annual general meeting of the Buenos Aires Rowing Club is to be held to-night in the Scotch Church school rooms at 8 o'clock. The principal business will be the election of a President and Committee, so that for such important work it is to be hoped the meeting will be well attended. With the new committee we shall look for little more energy being displayed in the way of getting together a crew for the Montevideo Regatta when it comes round again, so that our friends on the other side will not be able to complain next year that although they always send a crew to compete in the Tigre Regatta, Buenos Aires is never represented in Montevideo.

The suicide of Mr. Hume Webster the other day will have made a great sensation in sporting circles at home, where his name has lately been so much before the public in connection with the syndicate that he formed a short time ago to take Ormonde, if possible, home to England. Mr. Webster's stud at Marden, in the lovely Caterham Valley, is one of the foremost in the country, and his yearlings by George Frederick, St. Honorat, and the other stallions standing there have always made long prices.

We have received a copy of the "Year Book," published at the office of the *Farmer and Stock Breeder*, 325 Strand London and for breeders of sheep, cattle, horses or poultry it will be found most useful, as besides several handy tables it contains a quantity of most interesting information on breeding and farming generally.

Only one or two polo clubs have as yet expressed their intention of sending a team to compete in the Hurlingham Tournament next March, but amongst them we are glad to see last year's winners, the Santa Fé Polo Club. The Polo Pony Meeting, which we stated last week would be held on Saturday, February the 27th, will be held on Monday, the 29th, as Saturday, being the last working day of the month, very few business men would be able to leave town on that day. The Hurdle Race will, in all probability, be placed last on the card, as being, perhaps, the severest event of the day, ponies competing in it would not be fit for very much afterwards.

Any genuine polo pony may compete at this meeting, as it is not confined to ponies playing in the tournament only.

The race meeting at Hurlingham announced for yesterday had to be cancelled. Only the three pony races filled, as only three horsees were properly entered in the Premio Cosmopolita, although we published nine entries last week, so at a meeting of the Racing Committee held last Wednesday it was decided not to hold the meeting.

A correspondent asks us what is the correct weight for a polo ball, and we can only reply that there is no weight laid down in any rules

that we know of, though the third rule in the Hurlingham Rules of Polo says that the "size of the ball is to be 3 inches in diameter." It would be quite impossible to always play with balls the same weight, and at the same time the same size, as their weight depends entirely on the kind of wood used to make them of, and the condition it is in when they are made. By common consent willow balls seem to be universally used, except perhaps in India, where balls made of bamboo root that are both light and last a very long time are in use perhaps more than any others.

The list of foals born in 1891 shows a total of 2433, of which 1192 are colts and 1241 fillies. Barcalaine is credited with the exceptional number. We should think, of thirty-nine, Esterling and Galliard are each credited with thirty-four, Isonomy has thirty-one, and Melton thirty. The average only gives a little over six foals to each stallion, as the 2433 foals born alive were the progeny of about 380 different sires.

The question of how many mares should be served by a stallion in the season, has, to our mind, never been satisfactorily answered, as the fact of most of our best horses, from the great Ormonde downwards, having been amongst the first offspring of their sires, seems to point out that our stallions are asked to do too much at the stud, and that twenty or thirty mares would be quite enough to give to each horse instead of forty, the number now generally given to most racing stallions.

A breeder in Santa Fé told us the other day that a thoroughbred horse, by Poulter, he is now serving with, got no less than forty-eight foals this season, thirty-six of them, unfortunately, being slipped; he did not say how many mares his horse had covered, but it seems a very large number of foals for one stallion. Thirty-three two-year-olds at one sale, all got by Phoenix, will stand as a record for a long time, we should imagine, in the successful foal-getting line.

The ninth match of the tour of Lord Sheffield's Team was begun at Ballarat on December 26, against Twenty of Ballarat and District the visitors batting all day and obtaining 235 runs for the loss of seven wickets, Mr W. G. Grace's share amounting to sixty-two. Continuing on Monday, the Englishmen increased their total to 424, the last three wickets having added 169 runs. When play ceased on the second day, fourteen Ballarat wickets were down for 134 runs. Five runs only were added by the outstanding wickets of the home side, and as the team was dismissed again for 151 runs the Englishmen won by an innings and 134 runs.

The second match of English Cricketers in South Africa was against Fifteen of Cape Colony and was concluded at Cape Town on December 28, and like the first of the tour, resulted in a draw. In their first innings the visitors scored 180 runs—a number which the opposing team exceeded by seventeen. Upon batting a second time, the tourists obtained 218 runs for the loss of two wickets, Alec Hearn's share amounting to ninety-one. They then closed their innings, leaving the Colonials 236 to get to win. In the time that remained for play the latter made 142 and lost ten wickets.

Some extraordinary increases in the weight of sheep during their voyage to Europe are reported. Sheep weighing 80 kilos when they left their estancia here, arrived in Bordeaux weighing no less than 127 kilos.

The *Scientific American* publishes a photograph of a horse whose mane and tail have grown in a most extraordinary manner. He is a stallion of French or Percheron, Printer, and Clydesdale blood, standing sixteen hands high and weighing 1,435 lbs., or nearly 13 cwt. He is of chestnut colour, his main and tail being of the same hue. He is now eight years old, and was foaled in Marion Co., Oregon. His mane is fourteen feet, his foretop nine feet, and his tail twelve feet long. The greatest care is taken of his hair; it is washed out with cold water, no tonics being applied to it, and before the horse is placed in his stall the hair is drawn out and divided into strands, rolled up and put into bags, five of which are required for his mane and foretop alone.

San Martin, Vicente Casares,
F. C. S., January 29.

To the Editor *River Plate Sport and Pastime*.

Dear—Sir,
I read with much interest, in your issue of yesterday, a note concerning a grey Argentine pony which went so well with the Enfield Chase staghounds, as I feel sure that he is one which I broke and sent to England with thirty others, last June.

The pony which I sent was remarkable both for his "spareness of frame" and his extraordinary "staying powers," was very fast, and one of the grandest "water jumpers" I ever rode. I had not time to school him as an all round fencer.

I must say that I think you are quite right in what you say about the class of Argentine horses which should be sent to England, and for my own part, should be very well satisfied if I could afford to ride over the dear old country once more mounted on South American hunters.—Yours truly,
DONALD HUSSEY.

We are extremely sorry to see that through a shooting accident Prince Christian has lost an eye. It seems that the Prince himself was not shooting, but was accompanying his second son, Prince Albert, while out with a small party in the Royal preserves at Osborne, Isle of Wight. In a certain wood in which the party found themselves, shooting is extremely difficult, the shooters being perforce almost in a semi-circle, Prince Albert and his father on this occasion being on the right hand. A pheasant got up, and Prince Albert was on the point of shooting when the bird was winged, and at the same time Prince Christian put his hands to his eyes and exclaimed "I am shot." There is no positive knowledge as to whose shot it was that caused the mischief, but circumstances pointed to the Duke of Connaught. There is, evidently, no doubt that the accident was caused by a glancing shot from the bough of a tree, as the wound was not a direct one, but entered the top of Prince Christian's eyelid and descended into the back of the ball of the eye. The Prince, accompanied by the whole party, walked back to Osborne, where, unfortunately, the eye had to be removed next day.

POLO

BELGRANO v. THE ROVERS.

A match between these two clubs had been talked of ever since the formation of the Belgrano Club, but one thing or another had prevented it being played until January the 31st, when the Rovers came over to Belgrano from Quilmes to do battle with the home club. A large number of visitors were present to witness the game, most of them in carriages, a temporary erection affording shelter for the others. Everyone is looking forward to the erection of the pavilion, which we believe the club has bought and is going to erect immediately. Teams:

Belgrano.	The Rovers.
1. J. K. Cassels	1. W. D. Bailey
2. R. England	2. A. M. Hudson
3. F. J. Balfour	3. A. Yeomans
H. de B. Stafford (back)	A. Murray (back).

Umpires: H. Anderson and C. C. Day.

For the first few minutes the Rovers did what they liked with the Belgrano back division, and they scored two goals from scrimmage in front of goal in the easiest fashion. England relieved the situation, however, later on by a good run down to the Rover's goal and centering the ball to Balfour, who, in this quarter, was playing No. 1, the first point for the home club was notched, the score at the call of time being, therefore, The Rovers 2 goals, Belgrano 1.

Belgrano got hold of the ball immediately it was thrown in for the second quarter, and although a hit behind only resulted, they kept their opponents so hemmed in after the hit out that Cassels was enabled to score with a pretty side shot. The same thing happened again when the game recommenced, the successful shot being made by England. The game opened out after this and improved greatly in pace, first one side then the other holding a slight advantage. The period eventually closing without further addition to the score, which stood at Belgrano 3 goals, The Rovers 2.

The third quarter was very fast, and all through the period neither side held the slightest advantage over the other, the ball only went behind once or twice, though it was travelling up and down the ground the whole time. No point was scored, so the game, at the call of time, stood as before.

On commencing the last quarter Belgrano repeated their tactics of the second, and without allowing the Rovers to get away scored two goals within a few minutes of each other, both hit by England on the evergreen Fair Ray. This roused the Rovers, and they now played up with a great amount of dash and helped by weak back play on the part of Belgrano, worked the ball down to their opponents goal, where it was unfortunately put through, in trying to save, by one of the home team. After some more give and take play, Bailey got possession of the ball near his side's goal, and making a really brilliant run down to the Belgrano lines, Hudson put it through just before time, leaving the score therefore Belgrano 5 goals, The Rovers 4.

For the losers Murray played a splendid game and was absolutely safe at back, never allowing a single ball to pass him, and *always turning his pony for a back-hander*, whilst Bailey and Hudson played well and rode hard forward. Neither side showed much combination, but had the Rover's forwards not hit all over the ground so much, they certainly would have deserved to have won.

The ground was very hard and dusty and requires rain badly.

During the match, between the quarters, a members' game was played, in which the following players took part: Messrs. J. M. Still, E. Danvers, J. W. Hunter, R. R. McIver, F. Yeomans, A. Brodie, R. Richards and J. McMorran.

FISHERTON v. ROLDAN.

This match came off on the ground of the Rosario Polo Club, on Sunday, Jan. 31st, in the presence of a large and enthusiastic concourse of spectators including many of the fair sex, the variety of whose charming costumes gave brightness and animation to the scene. The game may be said to have hardly been contested, owing to the form and practised play of the Fishertonians, who, although a young team, showed their skill in a way to be envied by older players, and carried off the honours by a score of 12 to nil. At the conclusion of the match a good quarter was played by the Rosario men in which neither side scored.

- | | |
|---------------------|------------------|
| Fisherton. | Roldan. |
| 1. G. Willemoes | 1. F. Dickson |
| 2. J. Beaumont | 2. M. Graham |
| 3. W. J. Christie | 3. T. Wharron |
| J. S. Smith (back). | J. Pryce (back). |

BELGRANO v. HURLINGHAM.

The Hurlingham team for the coming tournament played a practice game at Belgrano yesterday against a team of the home club. A considerable amount of interest was attached to the game and a good number of visitors were present on the ground during the afternoon. The Hurlingham team were playing together for the first time, and in the first quarter were "all over the shop," but as the game advanced they settled down into their respective places, and with plenty of practice and good ponies they should be able to hold their own. The teams were composed as follows:

- | | |
|----------------------|-------------------------|
| Belgrano. | Hurlingham. |
| 1. E. Robson | 1. F. J. Balfour |
| 2. H. de B. Stafford | 2. J. Ravenscroft |
| 3. J. K. Cassels | 3. H. Bennett |
| R. England (back). | H. Scott Robson (back). |

As we have just said, Hurlingham were altogether astray during the first part of the game, and Belgrano scored two goals in good style, the visitors also notching a couple of points in the first quarter, in which the play all round was decidedly loose.

In the next three periods Hurlingham had matters pretty much their own way, and added seven more goals to their score, which, at the end of the game, therefore stood, Hurlingham 9 goals, Belgrano 2.

Stafford, England and Robson played best for the home team, the last named, who has only played a few times, being one of the most promising players we think we have ever seen. A great many points were lost by both sides through one or two members in the teams being mounted on ponies that turned badly. A few lessons only are required to teach a pony to stop and turn, and for the short time it would take to teach them to do so, their owners would be amply repaid.

Besides this match the members of the Club had a game during the afternoon, taken part in by the following: Messrs. R. Richards, J. W. Hunter, R. R. McIver, J. McMorran, A. Brodie, Holland, and McDonald. The young players all seem as "keen as mustard," and are coming on wonderfully well considering the short time they have been at the game.

ROWING

The following were the results of the races held in the Bay at Montevideo on Monday, Feb. 1st, in celebration of the suppression of the Port Dues:

1st Race—1000 metres: Club Nacional: long oars. First: Green flag—E. Ventura, F. Trueba, S. Rosello (cox.) Four boats started. Sport \$3.00.

2nd Race—1000 metres: M.V.R.C.: long oars. First: Blue flag—H. Leopold, E. Miles, H. Wille (cox.) Red flag—E. Cooper, R. Hunt, M. Buela (cox.) Won easily by three lengths. Sport, \$2.40.

3rd Race—1200 metres: Club Nacional: eight oars. First: Blue flag—E. M. Castel, C. Morató, F. Puppo, A. Morató, G. Vallvé, V. Borro, J. Dubra, C. Marshall, J. Susviela (cox.) Four boats started. Won easily by 100 yards. Sport, \$3.00.

4th Race—1200 metres: M.V.R.C.: four oars. First: Blue flag—H. Leopold, C. Sturzenegger, R. Fliege, A. J. Davie, E. Decoumex (cox.) Two boats started. Won by two lengths. Sport, \$3.48.

5th Race—1200 metres: Club Nacional: four oars. First: Red flag—E. Castel, E. Morató, J. Puppo, S. Bergallo, R. Fearn (cox.) Two boats started. A very fine race, only won by a few feet after a neck and neck struggle all the way. Sport, \$3.98.

6th Race—1200 metres: M.V.R.C.: four oars. First: Blue flag—R. Shauricht, A. D. Dunbar, A. Baumgarten, W. L. Poole, H. Wille (cox.) Two boats started. Won easily: the losers giving up. Sport, \$2.98.

After some deliberation the Club Nacional de Regattas decided to postpone their Regatta announced for the 31st, till Sunday, the 7th February. This will give the English men-of-war a chance to be present and may lead to a few additional races between navy crews.

At a late date it was also arranged between the two M. V. Clubs that only one crew from either Club should compete in the International Gig Races, and the heats were therefore rowed off between the members of the M. V. Rowing Club (the crews were published in our last issue) on Wednesday.

In the Double Sculls, Ludeke and Arthur Davie defeated Fliege and Adam by a bare half-length.

For the Long Oars, Fliege and Ludeke will be entered, as the other competitors have retired. *Vengado News.*

CRICKET

FIXTURES.

- Wednesday, Feb. 3, at Lanús—Lanús v. Adela.
- Wednesday, Feb. 3, at Rosario—Buenos Aires v. Rosario.
- Wednesday, Feb. 3, at Belgrano—Lomas v. B. A. v. R. Ry.
- Sunday, Feb. 7, at Belgrano—B. A. v. R. Ry. v. Western Ry. and ground.
- Sunday, Feb. 7, at Hurlingham—Hurlingham v. Lanús.
- Sunday, Feb. 14, at Lanús—Lanús v. The London Bank.
- Sunday, Feb. 14, at Belgrano—B. A. v. R. Ry. v. Pacific Ry.
- Sunday, Feb. 21, at Belgrano—Hurlingham v. B. A. v. R. Ry.
- Sunday, Feb. 21, at Lanús—Lanús v. Lomas.
- Monday, Feb. 29, at Palermo—Montevideo v. Buenos Aires (two days).
- Monday, Feb. 29, at Hurlingham—Rosario v. Hurlingham (two days).
- Monday, Feb. 29, at Belgrano—Lanús v. B. A. v. R. Ry (two days).
- Monday, Feb. 29, at Lomas—Lomas Academy v. Mr Dadds Eleven.
- Monday, Feb. 29, at Lomas—Lomas Academy v. Adela.
- Wednesday, March 2, at Lanús—Lomas Academy v. Lanús.
- Wednesday, March 2, at Palermo—Montevideo v. Rosario (two days).
- Wednesday, March 2, at Hurlingham—Buenos Aires v. Hurlingham (two days).
- Sunday, March 6, at Lanús—Lanús v. Penchillo House.
- Sunday, March 6, at Belgrano—B. A. v. R. Ry. and ground v. Campana.
- Sunday, March 6, at Tolosa—Lomas Academy v. Western Railway.
- Sunday, March 13, at Belgrano—B. A. v. R. Ry. v. Lomas.
- Sunday, March 20, at Lomas—Lomas Academy v. London Bank.
- Sunday, March 13, at Hurlingham—Western Railway v. Hurlingham.
- April (Holy Week), at Montevideo—Buenos Aires v. Montevideo.
- April (Holy Week), at Lanús—B. A. v. R. Ry. v. Lanús.

HURLINGHAM v. QUILMES ATHLETIC CLUB.

The above match, which was set down for decision last Sunday at Hurlingham, proved a most one-sided affair. Hurlingham won the toss and went in first, Coubrough and C. Thompson making so little of the bowling of James and Burrows that 48 was marked on the board before Coubrough's wicket fell, and the succeeding batsmen adding so materially to the score that

when it had reached 200, the Hurlingham captain closed the innings.

The Quilmes Athletic Club's first three wickets scored 14 runs, but the following seven only contributed four, two of which were byes, the innings closing for the small total of 18. G. A. Thomson was in rare form with the ball, he took seven wickets for only 4 runs, in eight overs.

Below are the full scores:

Hurlingham Club	1st inn	Quilmes A. C.	1st inn
C. Thompson, b Burrows	80	H. H. James, b Lacey	6
L. E. Coubrough, b H. H. James	31	C. R. Thurstby, c J. Gifford, b G. A. Thomson	2
J. Gifford, b Sinclair	47	F. J. Bennett, b G. A. Thomson	6
G. A. Thomson, b James	3	F. W. Fothergill, b G. A. Thomson	0
V. Ker Seymour, c Fothergill, b James	16	A. Palmer, b Lacey	0
G. Harker, not out	32	T. B. Sinclair, c Harker, b Lacey	2
E. R. Gifford, b Sinclair	5	F. W. Fothergill, b G. A. Thomson	0
A. Bowden Smith, not out	17	C. Burrows, c Ker Seymour, b G. A. Thomson	0
Lacey (prop.)	15	D. Norman, not out	0
W. H. Masters, clared	76	F. Borequet, b G. A. Thomson	0
J. Stuart	17	G. Marriott Woodgate, st	0
Extras	17	Masters b G. Thomson	0
Total	201	Extras	2
		Total	18

BOWLING ANALYSIS

Hurlingham Club			
H. H. James	24	3	84
C. Burrows	13	2	31
J. S. Sinclair	12	3	39
D. Norman	4	—	18
F. J. Bennett	4	—	12
Quilmes Athletic Club			
G. A. Thomson	8.1	5	4
Lacey	8	4	12

The match against Rosario yesterday at Rosario, ended in a decisive victory for Buenos Aires by an innings and 7 runs. Mr. V. Ker Seymour made a splendid innings of 61 for the winners. We hope to publish a full report of the game next week.

CORRESPONDENCE

To the Editor *River Plate Sport and Pastime.*

Dear Sir,—
Why do not the managers of the different tram lines try another plan of working their coaches? The whole thing is most obvious—that whenever a working man handles the money before the master, some of it is sure to stick to him, no matter what inspection goes on. The mayorales must have some interest beyond their present salaries. The proper plan is to let the coaches to the mayorales at so much per day for so many trips. The inspection required then would be to see that their arrivals and departures at different points were on time. The use of tickets would be dispensed with and the army of inspectors done away with also. Add up the average takings and give the mayoral coaches at a fair price, with a certain number of horses, allowing him to select his own driver. The Companies would find themselves far better off in the matter of horseflesh, and no doubt we should see before long some smart teams, well got up, in the streets. Lovers of horses would be so pleased, that gratuities would be given to drivers, &c., and thus these men would be better dressed and the Companies all the time no poorer. I enclose my card. —Yours truly,

ONE WHO KNOWS HOW THE LONDON BUS TRADE IS WORKED.

Cordoba, January 25, 1892.

To the Editor *River Plate Sport and Pastime.*

Dear Sir,
I notice a letter from one of your correspondents, Baron C. E. Von Poellnitz, mentioning a flight of butterflies at Pergamino in your issue of the 21st inst. It might be of interest, and perhaps some who have noticed them before, could explain the flight of these butterflies, but I have seen them near the salinas about the Station Recreo, on the Ferro Carril Central de Cordoba (Section Central Norte), where the flight of butterflies began in the morning and continue all through the day, and there must have been myriads of them. As high as one could see they were flying over head. The colour of them is white, just like our small white ones in England. To see them one would think it was snowing. I have noticed this flight now for the last three years, and nearly always in the month of January, just after some heavy rains, with the wind blowing from W. to E.

NORWICH UNION

SOCIEDAD de SEGUROS CONTRA INCENDIOS

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At the small patches of water in ditches or pools in the monte they settle in thousands, forming a beautiful white fringe six inches to a foot broad, and they even settle anywhere where there is moisture.

They seem to disappear as suddenly as they came, passing eastward. I noticed very few other kinds amongst them.

I am very sorry I cannot send a specimen.—Yours truly, H. A. W.

P.S.—Doesn't Darwin mention the flight of butterflies in his voyage in the "Beagle" round the world.

List of Clubs with their Secretaries

We should be glad if the Secretary of any Cricket, Polo, Football or Athletic Club not mentioned in the following list would communicate with us. We shall also be glad to receive corrections of any mistake in the list and the address of the secretaries not given.

CLUB	SECRETARY
Argentine Association Football League	A. Lamont, Plaza Constitucion F.C.S.
Balcarce Polo Club	T. A. H. Forde, Balcarce F.C.S.
Buenos Aires Cricket Club	Denny Stokes, Victoria 536, Buenos Aires.
Buenos Aires and Rosario Ry. Athletic Club	T. Fisher, 248 Avenida de Mayo, B. Aires.
Buenos Aires Football Club	R. W. Anderson, 476 Piedad, B. Aires.
Buenos Aires Rowing Club	
Belgrano Polo Club	J. W. Hunter, 3 de Febrero 103, Belgrano.
Campana Polo Club	F. J. Bardrick, B. A and R. Ry., Campana.
Cañada de Gomez Polo Club	J. S. Rabinson, Cañada de Gomez, F.C.C.A.
Colonia Polo Club	Dr. H. J. Walker, Santa Rosa de Lima, Rio Negro.
Cordoba Athletic Club	J. W. Besserer, Casilla 21, Córdoba.
Flores Polo Club	H. Scott Robson, 221 Rivadavia, Flores.
Guaileguay Polo Club	A. Raikes, Guaileguay, Entre Rios.
Hurlingham Club	M. G. Fortune, 685 Cangallo, B. Aires.
Lanús Cricket Club	J. Brayshaw.
Lomas Academy Athletic Club	J. Kahl, 632 Corrientes, B. Aires.
Montevideo Athletic Club	J. Harvey, Club Inglés, Montevideo.
Montevideo Cricket Club	A. Gair, Club Inglés, Montevideo.
Montevideo Polo Club	C. H. Jefferies, Club Inglés, Montevideo.
North Santa Fé Polo Club	F. Kinchant, Las Petacas, San Jorge F.C.C.A.
Quilmes Athletic Club	T. B. Sinclair, 371 Piedad, Buenos Aires.
Roldan Polo Club	J. D. Pryce, Hotel Inglés, Roldan.
Rosario Athletic Club	J. A. H. Beaumont.
Rosario Polo Club	
Rovers Polo Club	A. M. Hudson, 56 San Martin, Buenos Aires.
St. Andrews Athletic Club	A. Lamont, Plaza Constitucion, F.C.S.
Santa Fé Polo Club	J. Benitz, La California, Las Rosas, F.C.C.A.
Santiago del Estero Polo Club	R. McSmyth, La Banda, Santiago del Estero.
Tigre Boat Club	W. H. Krabbé.
Tucuman Athletic Club	Stuart Shtipton, F.C.N.O.A., Tucuman.
Tuyú Polo Club	E. Farber, Los Ingleses, Ajó F.C.S.
Venado Tuerto Polo Club	G. O'Connell, La Colina, Venado Tuerto.

The Humours of an Agricultural Science Class

Technical education is the order of the day. Even the domain of the farmer has been assailed, and at many different centres in the country lecturers are at work driving home the elementary truths of agricultural science. Teaching is by no means an easy task; to explain the varying degrees of solubility of phosphates, the capillary action of soils, the composition of the primary rocks, or the economical use of lime, requires a

full average amount of patience, but it is not our intention to speak of difficulties. It would be strange if, during a course of lectures, there were not some flashes of wit, and gleams of fun, sufficiently amusing to be worth recording, and a few of such that occurred during last winter's session have here been collected.

Farmers as a body despise book learning—of that there is not the shadow of a doubt—and to get together a class to study the principles of agriculture requires a lot of canvassing. On asking a farmer to join he will often say, "Well, but what can you teach me? Do you think you can teach me how to make rain? If you can I will come." Of course you confess your inability, but you tell him the Americans profess to know the trick, and advise him to go to them for information. Such a man is of little use even if he is induced to attend a lecture "to see how he likes it," for he will come without faith; he will be like the men who went to church to pray for fine weather, but took their topcoats.

However, with a little practice a decent class can usually be got together. The first few lectures pass off quietly, but as soon as the students get accustomed to it, they begin to ask questions, and sometimes very curious ones. "I should like to know," says one, "why it is that a tree grows from the outside, and an onion from the inside," and it is some little time before he can be made to understand that the stem of the onion is suppressed, and that the bulb and the ascending portion represent the leaves only. "You say lime has a good mechanical effect on soils. Does it act in the same way that yeast does in dough?" says another, the answer to which is an emphatic "No." "What is the best manure for each of the different farm crops," would be difficult to excel as a good comprehensive question, and yet it was asked by a student at the first lecture he attended: as most of the course was occupied in explaining this matter, the question at the time remained unanswered. If Professors Wrightson and Tanner want an entirely new set of questions for the next Science and Art examination they cannot do better than apply to the students.

The practical man is always well to the fore in these classes. You ask the question, "What is the use of water culture?" and our practical friend answers, "To keep the land from flooding." You explain the difference between a mixture and a chemical compound, and you ask for an example of a mixture and are given, "Irish stew." By the way, does Irish stew resemble the elements of which it is composed? Again, after spending a lot of time over carbon, explaining that 50 per cent. of the dry combustible matter of plants consists of it, and so on, and you say, "Supposing it was considered necessary to apply carbon to a soil, how would you do it?" you are not told "by green manuring, etc.," but there is a dead silence. You repeat the question, and the practical man says, "With a shovel."

Sometimes your statements are doubted; on one occasion after saying that granite contained no fossils, an audible whisper was heard, "Well! That's the biggest lie I ever heard in my life; we have a granite mantelpiece that is full of them." However, a suggestion that it might be marble turned out to be correct. It may be of interest to some people to know that according to one authority, clover has a carbonious root, and turnips a fine root with a cap! It is not easy to give a good definition of milk, but one student got over the difficulty by calling it cow's juice. An intelligent student said that plants sometimes stored up nutriment in their roots and stems for winter use; he must have thought they hibernated like bees and dormice, and that they occasionally woke up hungry. It was raining when the statement was made that cabbages contained 90 per cent. of water, and it brought forth a remark from a young fellow as he ruefully buttoned his coat and thought of his walk home, "Then this must be a good night for them."

After a lecture was concluded, the students sometimes stayed behind and discussed it. Once a hill called Monk End had been mentioned, and this led someone to ask if there had ever been any monks in the neighbourhood, and a tradition as to the existence of a monastery in the place where a mill is now standing was related. The talk then turned on the antiquities of the village—stones in the walls of the parish church from a previous edifice, discoveries of Roman pavement in the neighbourhood, and so forth. Someone had dug up some of the latter and built a wall with it, and so the conversation drifted to instances of buildings in various parts of the district that had been constructed out of the remains of previous ones. This led to the story of a gentleman who had a ruin of great antiquity on his

estate. Wishing to preserve it, he contracted with a local man to build a wall round it, he himself being in London at the time. Well, what did the fellow do but pull down the ruin and use the stone to build the wall that should have protected it! "But what did he think the gentleman wanted the wall for," said one. "Perhaps he thought it was a bit of haunted ground he was enclosing," said another. "Nay," said a farmer, "he must have thought he wanted a bull park." "There," said one who had been listening, "we began with agriculture, we have had a good long round and we have got back to it again, so we will go home." And with a hearty laugh we separated.

Some students sat for the examination and some didn't. Those who didn't were of opinion that they knew quite as much as those who did, and perhaps a little more. One of those who sat thus summed the matter up to them: "You know too much, or you would have gone in for the exam; you thought if you went in you would do so well that there would be such a big grant to the class that it would break the Government." Be it known, that somewhere in this tight little island there is a body of men so patriotic that sooner than wreck the Government they refrained from sitting at an examination.

And now to conclude. There is nothing extraordinary in the above record; probably dozens of classes have similar ones if they were but written. But the comic side of matters agricultural has been kept out of sight so much that many persons do not believe there is one. This is a mistake. A farmer can crack a joke or laugh at a good story as heartily as anyone, and if the literature devoted exclusively to him is all of a solid character, it is not because he wishes it to be so. If conducted within certain reasonable limits an effort to combine instruction and amusement would be fully appreciated and welcomed by him.—*The Farmer and Stock Breeder.*

HURLINGHAM

FORFEIT LIST 1891

Stud 2nd Argentino (Sr. Joaquin A. Capuanay), entry fee \$50—
Pluton Premio Ecurie, April 6.
Stud Stop (Sr. Molina), entry fee \$30—
Pinquilla Premio Expreso, April 6.
Sr. J. M. Ezeurra, entry fee \$30
Don Laguna The Laddie Steeplechase, Sept. 8.
Sr. J. M. Ezeurra, entry fee \$30
Don Laguna Hurdle Race, October 17.
Sr. E. Billingham, entry fee \$25—
Murcielago Premio Las Rosas, Nov. 25.
Stud Crisis (Sr. E. W. Fernandez), entry fee \$50—
Crisis Premio Gardenia, Nov. 25.

1892

Mr E. Billingham—
Premio Europa, Jan. 6. Fine imposed by starter \$20
Sr. J. J. Mandia
Premio Europa, Jan. 6. Fine imposed by starter \$20
Mr C. J. Klappenbach
Premio Europa, Jan. 6. Fine imposed by starter \$20

PRICES

Closing prices of Sovereigns and Ounces on the Bolsa from January 27 to February 2, inclusive:

	SOVS.	ONZS.
Wednesday	\$19.20	\$61.90
Thursday	19.20	61.70
Friday	19.20	61.90
Saturday	19.25	62.00
Monday	19.60	63.20
Tuesday		

Over 14,000 head arrived at the Corrales during the past week, and prices as below have been made:

Novillos	\$25.00	54.00
Cows	14.00	31.00
Sheep	4.70	6.20
Bullocks		

Hay (1000 kilos)	25.00	35.00
Maiz (100 kilos)	6.00	7.00
Wheat (100 kilos)	12.80	13.25

Novillo Hides	6.00	12.50
Cow Hides	5.50	6.50
Sheepskins	0.70	1.00
Wool	9.00	9.50

Cargo received in Central Produce Market from 25th to 31st January:

Wool	1,745,573 kilos
Skins	219,451 "
Grain	476,770 "
Various	22,583 "

The market was dull throughout the week.

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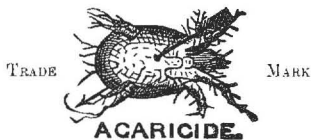
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pp. CHARLES A. CATLIN, Gerente,
ERNESTO DANVELS.

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Steamers fitted for Live Cattle Exportation on a new and strong principle.
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WANTED a GOOD ENGLISH BILLIARD TABLE. Apply this office.

WANTED, a SMART LAD who rides well, to look after Horses and Saddlery and make himself generally useful. Apply this office.

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also on AFRICA, AUSTRALIA, BRAZIL, CANADA, CHILE, PORTUGAL, SWITZERLAND, UNITED STATES, Rep. ORIENTAL.

The rates of interest allowed and charged by the Bank, from and including 1st. October 1891 until further notice will be as follows:

	Mon. nac.	Oro sellado
On accounts current and deposits at sight up to \$200,000.	2 0/0	
Do. do. on sums in excess of \$200,000	1 "	
On deposits at 30 days' notice	4 "	
On deposits at 90 days' fixed	5 "	
On deposits at 6 months	6 "	
On deposits at 12 months	6 "	
On deposits at 7 days' notice	2 0/0	
Do. 30 do. do.	3 "	
Do. 90 do. fixed	4 "	
On debit balances in account current	12 "	

ALLOWED

R. J. FENNESSY, Manager.
Buenos Ayres, October 1, 1891.

J. HUNT & Co.

BUILDERS AND CONTRACTORS,
CARPENTERS AND BRICKLAYERS
All kinds of Houses and other Buildings constructed on the most modern and sanitary systems.
Plans prepared and estimates given.
Repairs and alterations.
9 - CALLE LAPRIDA - 9
(Facing the Station)

LOMAS DE ZAMORA, F. C. SUD

THORLEY'S FOOD FOR CATTLE

Sole Agent, JOHN DE LISLE
ON SALE BY

Mackinlay & Zimmermann
92 - SAN MARTIN - 92

ENGLISH FURNITURE

MUEBLERIA

DE

LONDRES

THE LARGEST MUEBLERIA IN SOUTH AMERICA

Always on show a varied stock of high class imported furniture for

- Dining-Rooms
- Drawing-Rooms
- Bed-Rooms
- Libraries
- Offices

Brass & Iron Bedsteads & Bedding

Designs submitted and estimates given for Furniture, Fittings and Upholstery; executed here in our workshops, of sound workmanship, at lowest prices consistent with good quality.

H. C. Thompson & Co.

380 ARTES

1024 CORRIENTES

BUENOS AIRES

Importers and Manufacturers

The Anglo-Argentine Bank, Ltd.

15 Nicholas Lane, London.

BUENOS AIRES: 486—PIEDAD—494
MONTEVIDEO: 82—CALLE ZABALLA—82

Authorized Capital £1,000,000
Capital subscribed 500,000
Do. paid up 200,000
Reserve Fund 10,000

Current accounts opened with Commercial Firms and private individuals.

Deposits received at sight and for fixed periods.

Bills discounted, negotiated, and collected. Stocks and shares received on deposit for collection of Coupons and Dividends.

Proceeds of Coupons and Dividends remitted to parties interested in Europe. Stocks and shares bought and sold for account of third parties.

Bills of Exchange, Letters of Credit and Telegraphic payments effected on London, Paris, Hamburg, Antwerp, and the principal towns in Great Britain, France, Italy and Spain.

Banking business of every description transacted.

The following rates of interest will be allowed and charged by the Bank, until further notice:—

	ALLOWED	CHARGED
On deposit in current account and at call.	3 0/0	1 0/0 p.a.
" at one month's notice	4 "	2 "
" for two month's fixed	4 1/2 "	3 "
" for three "	5 "	4 "
For longer periods according to arrangement.		

Overdrafts in current account gold and paper 12 0/0
Discount according to arrangement.
January 2nd. 1892.

CHARLES PARRY,
Acting Manager.

LIST OF SAILINGS OF LAMPOR & HOLT'S STEAMERS

Antwerp and London
Via Rio de Janeiro and Bahia
Calling at Southampton
COLERIDGE (Belg.) JAN. 31
(Captain Brown)

Antwerp (DIRECT)
GARRICK (Eng.) FEB. 5
(Captain Pratt)

Antwerp (DIRECT)
MOZART (Eng.) FEB. 10
(Captain Ferguson)

T. S. BOADLE & Co.
Buenos Aires July 6, 1891.

BRITISH BANK OF SOUTH AMERICA (LIMITED)

FORMERLY ENGLISH BANK OF RIO JANEIRO (LIMITED).
ESTABLISHED 1863.

Calle Reconquista and Cangallo

Capital subscribed	£1,000,000	500,000
Do. Paid up	300,000	300,000
Do. Reserve Fund	300,000	300,000
General	75,000	75,000
	£905,000	

LONDON—2A MOORGATE STREET.

BRANCHES:
BUENOS AIRES, MONTEVIDEO,
AND RIO DE JANEIRO

Current Accounts opened.
Deposits received at sight and for fixed periods.

Commercial Bills discounted.
Letters of Credit issued.

Telegraphic Transfers and Drafts at sight, and up to 90 days' sight, given on its Head Office and Branches.

And on London Joint-Stock Bank (Lim.), London.
Messrs Heine & Co., Paris.
Joh Berenberg Gossler & Co., Hamburg.

Also on Italy, Spain, Belgium, and North America

Transfers of Funds to or from this country and Europe can be effected through the Bank's Chief Offices, at

2a Moorgate Street, London, E.C.
All kinds of Banking business done.

P A Y S

	U.S.	ORO
On deposits in Current Account and at Sight up to \$50,000	2 %	1 %
On the excess above \$50,000	1 %	1 %
For 90 days fixed	5 %	4 %
For other periods by arrangement.		

In addition, the Bank allows 1% on the minimum quarterly balance in account current when not less than \$5000, both in gold and paper.

CHARGES
For advance in account current 12 %
For discount by arrangement.

F. M. HERIOT, MANAGER.
Buenos Aires, Feb. 1, 1892.

ROYAL MAIL STEAM PACKET COMPANY.

The following are the proposed sailings of this Company's steamers:—

Trent Feb. 3
(Captain Bell)
For Santos, Rio de Janeiro, Las Palmas, Lisbon, Vigo, Southampton, and Antwerp.

ACCELERATED SERVICE
Magdalena Feb. 17
(Captain Spooner)

For Rio de Janeiro, Bahia, Pernambuco, St. Vincent, Lisbon, Vigo, Southampton, and Antwerp.

Special attention in drawn to the accelerated service, by which passengers are landed at Southampton within 22 days of leaving the River Plate.

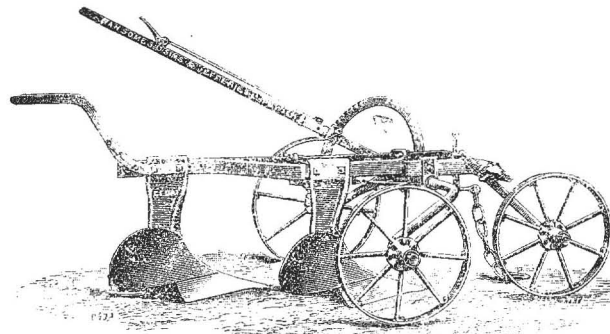
All these steamers are provided with the best accommodation for carrying passengers, and persons wishing to bring out friends from Europe can arrange with the Company's Agent on reasonable terms.

For other information apply to . . .
HENRY L. GREEN,
Reconquista 412
Agents in Rosario: BARNETT & Co

RANSOMES, SIMS & JEFFERIES

PLOUGHS - HARROWS - HORSE RAKES

THE
"RANSOMES"
PLOUGH



THE
"RANSOMES"
PLOUGH

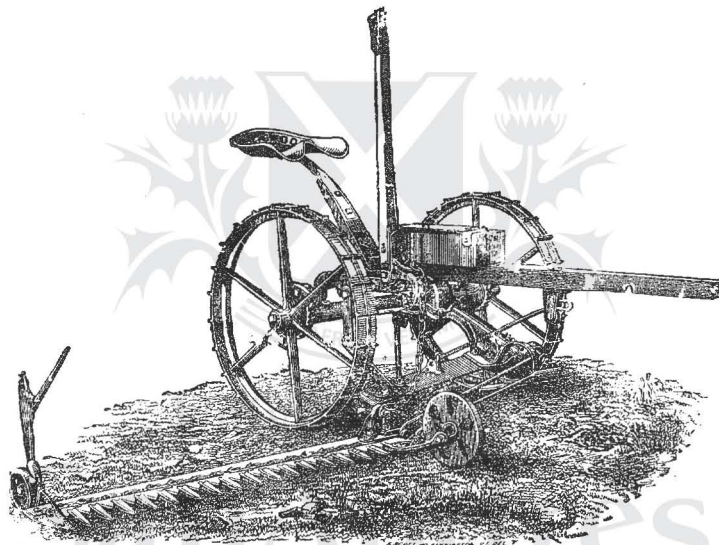
Made Especially for the Argentine Republic; with Adjustable Beam and all the latest improvements
Thousands of these celebrated Double Furrow Ploughs sold yearly.

WALTER A. WOOD'S MOWERS

ONE HORSE
3ft. 9 in. cut

TWO HORSE
4ft. 3 in. cut

TWO HORSE
6 ft. cut



THISTLE CUTTERS

HAY RAKES

ENGLISH
and
AMERICAN

Hundreds of letters from all parts of the Republic testifying to their
Superiority, Lightness of Draught, Durability, Simplicity and Cheapness.
All Extra Wearing Parts always in Stock

Wm Sole Importers *Wm*

JOHN & JOSEPH DRYSDALE & CO

440 - PERU - 450

PHENIX

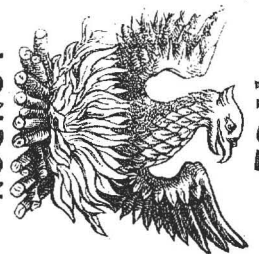
Compañia Inglesa de Seguros

AGENTE:

Juan Wallace - Piedad 559

Compañia Inglesa de Seguros

PHENIX
LONDON



1782