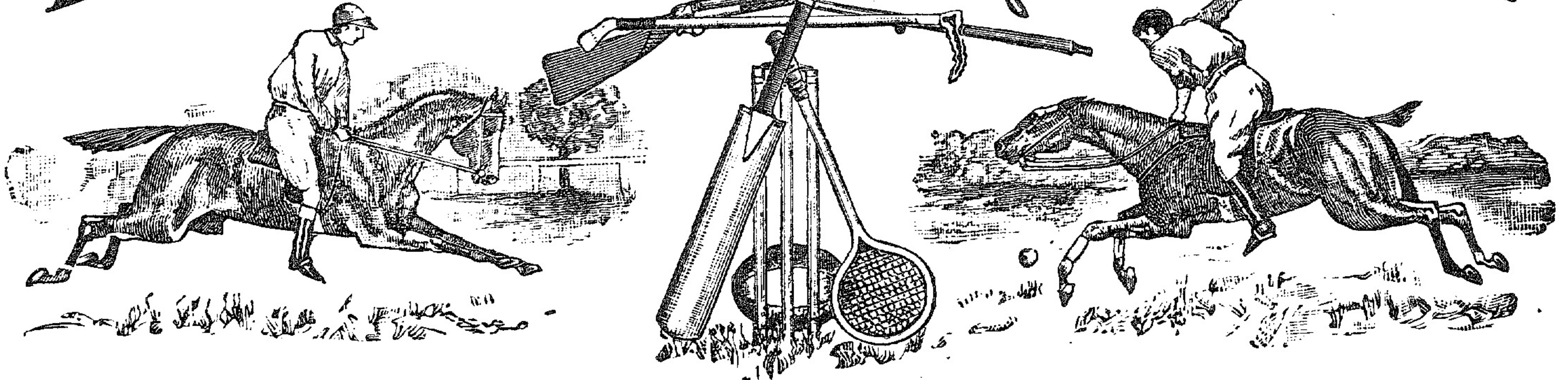


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SPORT & PASTIME

Vol. XVI., No. 401

BUENOS AIRES, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8, 1899.

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On deposits at 12 months fixed	conventional	Oro sellado
On accounts current		nil
On deposits at 1 month's notice, if retired before 2 months no interest		1 %
On deposits at 3 months fixed		2 "
On deposits at 6 months fixed		3 "
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At one month's notice	3 %	1% per ann.
For two month's fixed	3½ %	2 " "
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RIVER PLATE SPORT & PASTIME

Vol. XVI., No. 401.

BUENOS AIRES, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8, 1899.

Price: 30 cents.

W. S. LEES.

To-day we publish a photograph of the young Surrey professional who has been with us for the last few months, and who returned to the Old Country last Friday by the R.M.S. Clyde. The experiment of having a first-class professional engaged by our various clubs has been severely criticised by many, but we still hold that his visit has done much good, and our cricketers will all profit, some to a greater extent than others, from having made use of his services. More particularly is this noticeable with regard to some of the youngsters, with whom the subject of this article took infinite pains and care, and exercised great patience in coaching them.

Thinking that a few of the main points of this professional's career and his impressions of cricket here in general would be interesting to our readers, our representative interviewed him the day before he sailed from these shores, when the following interesting facts came to light:

Walter Lees was born in 1876 at Sowerby Bridge, near Halifax, Yorkshire, so that he is now twenty-three years of age. He played Rugby football in his native county, and used to fill either the position of forward or three-quarter back as was required.

We, however, are dealing with his career as a cricketer. He first played for the Halifax club, but apparently being uncertain as to his chances for the northern county, answered an advertisement with the result that in September, 1892, he made his first appearance in the South, in a Surrey colts match.

Playing before the game commenced, in the nets, he had the good fortune to clean bowl Mr Sydney Castle, the old Kent County player, three times in succession, and to this fact Lees is inclined, to a great extent, to attribute his eventual engagement at the Oval. In April, 1898, he was permanently engaged at the Oval, but not being qualified for the County, was unable to take part in either the first or second eleven matches. He played, however, in all the colts' matches, with fair success, his best bowling performance being eight wickets for six runs against East Mosely. In 1894 he again played in colts' matches and also in a few of the Club and Ground matches. He again did well, and as a proof that his batting was gradually improving we may mention that his highest score was 106, made against the Royal Artillery at the Oval. In 1895 he became fully qualified for the County, and he at once obtained his place in the second eleven, for whom he met with considerable success. In a season in which the 2nd XI. were unbeaten he was second in the bowling and fourth in the batting averages.

In 1896 we find Lees appearing for the first time with the first eleven. Altogether he played for the county three times, against Notts (in which match he scored 48), Essex, and Oxford University, while for the second eleven, he secured during the season fifty-eight wickets, this being the only occasion that over fifty wickets have fallen to the share of any bowler in one season for the Surrey second eleven. His best performance was in the match with Monmouthshire, when he secured fourteen wickets for 38 runs.

In 1897 Lees came rapidly to the front and proved without doubt that he was a first-class bowler. All the critics (and where we would ask will you find keener ones than at the Oval?) spoke very highly of his bowling and he was regarded by many as quite the coming man. We have already quoted Wisden and others in these columns and given the figures Lees obtained in 1897, but we might mention in passing that his best performance was against Hampshire at Southampton, when in their second innings he not only accomplished the "hat-trick" but took six wickets for 27 runs.

In the winter of 1897-98 he was engaged by the Western Province C. C., South Africa, for whom he did very well. In all matches he scored something like 900 runs, his highest score being 114, while he placed several between 70 and 80 to his credit. Altogether he enjoyed the trip very much. Few were prepared, therefore, to find him quite out of form on his return to the old country and his failure was a keen disappointment to many of his admirers who had predicted great things for him, which, by the

way, may (and we hope will) yet be fulfilled. One little point, we may mention as an excuse for the apparent failure of Lees in first-class cricket last season at home, and that is, it appeared to us, as casual observers, that he had really very few chances, and half-a-dozen overs seemed to be about the extent of a trial he received, after which, if he did not get a wicket, he seems instantly to have been taken off and not to have received any further trial.

At the conclusion of the 1898 season at home, Lees was engaged to come out here through the kind offices of Mr C. W. Alcock, and the Surrey County Secretary may rest assured that he could not have sent us a better or more suitable man.

In reply to our representative's question, "how do you compare our cricket here with that of South Africa?" Lees answered, "It is practically impossible to make any fair comparison between the two, on account of the tremendous disadvantages you play under here. In South Africa there are

always two matches a week, frequently three, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays being the match days. On the other days there are regular practices at which there is always a full attendance. There is always a week's cricket at Xmas., and a fortnight is devoted to the Currie Cup Tournament. Under these conditions you will readily understand that the players there have a fair chance of getting into good form, and of showing their real worth, a thing that no cricketer here has any chance of doing. At the same time I have seen enough to know that you have really good material among you, and in my own mind I'm quite confident that you possess batsmen quite capable of holding their own with any in South Africa."

As comparisons are always odious, our representative asked Lees to give his views on cricket here generally, and the professional at once acquiesced, and gave his actual opinion on the various branches of the game, without any hesitation. "To begin with," responded Lees, "all the grounds here, except one, suffer under the great disadvantage of having native ground-men to look after them, who, from what I have been able to gather, know nothing whatsoever of preparing a cricket pitch properly, while their ideas of "patching" an old wicket are very strange. It



would be well worth while for each club to get out an English ground-man, who thoroughly understands the work, could bowl at the nets, and if necessary umpire in the matches. He would cost very little, if any, more than the native ground-men, and the difference in the wickets would soon be very great, and as every one knows without good wickets you cannot have good cricket."

Coming next to the actual play itself Lees continued, "The fielding here is very slack, and far more energy should be displayed. There are a few brilliant exceptions, but, generally speaking, the fielding is distinctly weak. I must confess to having been disappointed with the batting, more particularly because of the utter want of practice displayed by nearly all. At the same time I feel quite sure you have several good bats among you, whom I should like to see in really good form. As regards the bowling I certainly expected to find more bowlers and a greater variety. As to those I have seen they would be considerably better, and more dangerous, were they to use their heads a little more and take more pains in placing their field, especially as regards the slips. Regarding the future, I think in a year or two's time the cricket here will be much better. There are several promising youngsters coming on, who, if they maintain their interest in the game, should do very well."

In reply to a question as to how he had enjoyed his trip here, Lees replied, "I have enjoyed my trip immensely and could not possibly have had a more enjoyable time, and I should like to take this opportunity of thanking all those who have helped to make my stay among you so pleasant, and especially Mr Kingsland for his kindness to me. I only hope that this will not be the last visit I shall pay to these hospitable shores."

With this last sentiment we cordially agree, and we shall hope to see him with us again before long. Since Lees has been with us he has conducted himself quietly and modestly, and all those who have come in contact with him will confirm this.

In conclusion, we can only express our sincere wish that Lees may have a good season at home this year, and definitely secure his place in the Surrey County team which he temporarily lost season.

He may rest assured that his performances with bat and ball will be watched with keen interest by all of our cricketers here.

Our portrait is from a photograph by A. S. Witcomb, Calle Florida 364, Buenos Aires.

ESTANCIA AND COLONY.

We have heard many discussions as to the relative merits and demerits of white and yellow maize, some people arguing in favour of one and some of the other colour. The following extract from the "Mark Lane Express" seems pretty decisive:—

"To a recent inquiry as to the relative value of white and yellow maize for fattening cattle, Professor W. A. Henry, of the Wisconsin Agricultural Experiment Station, made the following reply:—'Chemists can find no difference between white and yellow maize. It is doubtless true that some varieties of white maize are better than other varieties of yellow maize, and the reverse. It is not true that all white maize is better than all kinds of yellow maize, or that any variety of yellow maize is better than any or all of the white maize. In other words, colour appears to play no part in the feeding value of maize.'"

* * *

On Sunday last, the 26th ult, Sr. Manuel Castellar gave his 29th remate-feria in Azul, when he made sales to the value of \$56,785 m/n. The following being the prices ruling:—

450 cows al corte, at from \$10.50 to 16.50.
255 cows al corte, mestizas, at from \$21 to 23.50.
132 cows de vientre, criollas, at from \$16 to 19.50.
200 fat criolla cows, from 23.50 to 30.75.
110 novillos criollos and mestizones for invernada, from \$27.75 to 33.50.
4616 sheep at from \$1.80 to 3.40.
100 Lincoln sheep, plantel, at \$7.
1761 capones mestizo Lincoln for invernada, at \$3.30 to 4.50.
498 capones Rambouillet for invernada, at \$2.35 and 2.40.
7 imported Lincoln rams for \$1250, or an average of \$178.50.
50 mestizo Lincoln rams at \$22 to 70.
33 potros criollos at \$1600, and horses at \$4000.
500 novillos criollos and mestizones for invernada at \$26.

The buyers were Messrs Ginochio, Giraud Hnos., A. Itzaina, A. Egaña, S. Aguirrezabala, J. Urriaga, D. J. Sayus, F. Arbuco, N. Usos, A. Vidal, M. Pourtalé, M. Arnastua, B. Santa Cruz, C. Ureta, J. Ubalde, F. Etchepare, J. Gangoitia, Piazza Hnos., Urioste Hnos., and others.

* * *

Messrs Kingsland and Cash have purchased from Sr Caamaño, from his estancia at Zapiola, 800 export capones of 65 kilos and up, at \$3 gold each, deliverable on the waggons, with all the month of March to receive.

In the first remate-feria held at Navarro on Sunday of last week, the following prices ruled:—

Vacas mestizas al corte \$40, fat cows for butcher, criollas, at \$21.50 to 29, novillitos fat \$24 and 26, novillos fat \$38.50, camp bulls \$50, Lincoln rams from \$10 to 41, capones and sheep from \$1.40 to 2.70.

* * *

The sale is reported of a camp in the partido of Cañuelas, consisting of 474 squares of good invernada camp, wired and divided into several potreros, with good house and generally well equipped, for the round sum of \$100,000 paper. The seller is Sr Domingo Castro, and the purchaser Sr Raul Videla Dorna.

* * *

The sale is reported of 1000 good breeding cows al corte, mestizas Durham, at \$28. These animals are from Sr Serantes' estancia at Maipú, F.C.S.

* * *

Messrs Parker and Fraser have purchased, during the week, a troop of special export steers from an invernada in Cañuelas, at the fine price of \$37 gold per head.

Messrs J. M. Mendez and Co. have sold to a freezing establishment 300 steers from the estancia of Sr Ricardo Peixoto, on the Salado, at \$60 each.

The same firm of consignatarios have sold a lot of export capones, weight not stated, from an estancia in Cañuelas, at \$3 gold each, deliverable on waggons.

Several small lots of novillos for export to Brazil, are reported sold at \$40.

Bullocks for export are in good demand at from \$35 to 40 gold each, but must be very good to command the latter price.

* * *

On Wednesday of last week Messrs Funes, Lagos and Co. sold a lot of 26 Lincoln rams, imported by Messrs Kingsland and Cash, at an average price of \$133.25 each. The buyers were Messrs Fortabat, Eguia, Jurado, Garcia, and Sarrapie.

* * *

The "Diario del Comercio," in its issue of the 1st inst., has some very sane remarks to make on the present mode of embarking steers on board the ocean going steamers, and call special attention to the unnecessary cruelty of the present system of portcullis door to the cages employed in lifting the animals on board. Any one who has watched the operation of loading steers in the embarcadero, will have noticed that most of the animals by the time they get on board have all the skin rubbed, or rather torn off their tails; this, as the "Diario del Comercio" points out, is caused by the door of the cage falling on the animals as they enter it, and could be remedied very easily by simply padding the under part of the drop doors, or by having horizontally swinging doors instead of those at present in use.

* * *

The following is a note of the imports of live stock during the month of February past:—8 Durham bulls, 1 Polled Angus bull, 10 Durham cows, 1 Polled Angus cow, 496 Lincoln rams, 32 Oxford Down rams, 43 Shropshire Down Rams, 1 Merino ram, 12 Romney Marsh rams, 1 Rambouillet ram, 9 Leicester rams, 100 Lincoln ram lambs, 71 Lincoln sheep, 3 Percheron stallions, 3 burros Garañones, 7 Dogs, Poultry of various classes 73 birds. Total 20 head of horned cattle, 765 sheep, 3 horses, 7 dogs, and 73 birds.

* * *

The exports of animals for the same month were:—8491 horned cattle, 31,635 sheep, and 83 horses.

* * *

Sr. Benjamin Butteler has rented two leagues of camp in the partido of Saladillo, on a four years contract, to Sr. Feliciano Vivanco, at the rate of \$8,000 paper per league per annum.

* * *

Argentine horse hair is said to be in great demand in England and the United States. The brush factories in these two countries are said to prefer it to the hair from any other part of the world, as it is supposed to be much longer than any other.

* * *

Messrs. Grant Bros. of the estancia Fortin Pereda, Azul, have sold to Mr W. Purvis of the same partido, 400 criollo novillos for invernada at \$26 each.

* * *

Messrs P. and G. Hughes have sold to Messrs Parker and Fraser, some 125 export steers at \$40 gold each. The animals though not of any extraordinary weight, being calculated at 650 kilos, have been corn fed for some months past, and should give a very good account of themselves in the English market.

* * *

We hear of the sale of some 600 steers for invernada at \$60 and \$65 each, but have been unable to get further particulars except that the animals are of very special class, and in tip top condition, which is to be expected for such exceptional prices.

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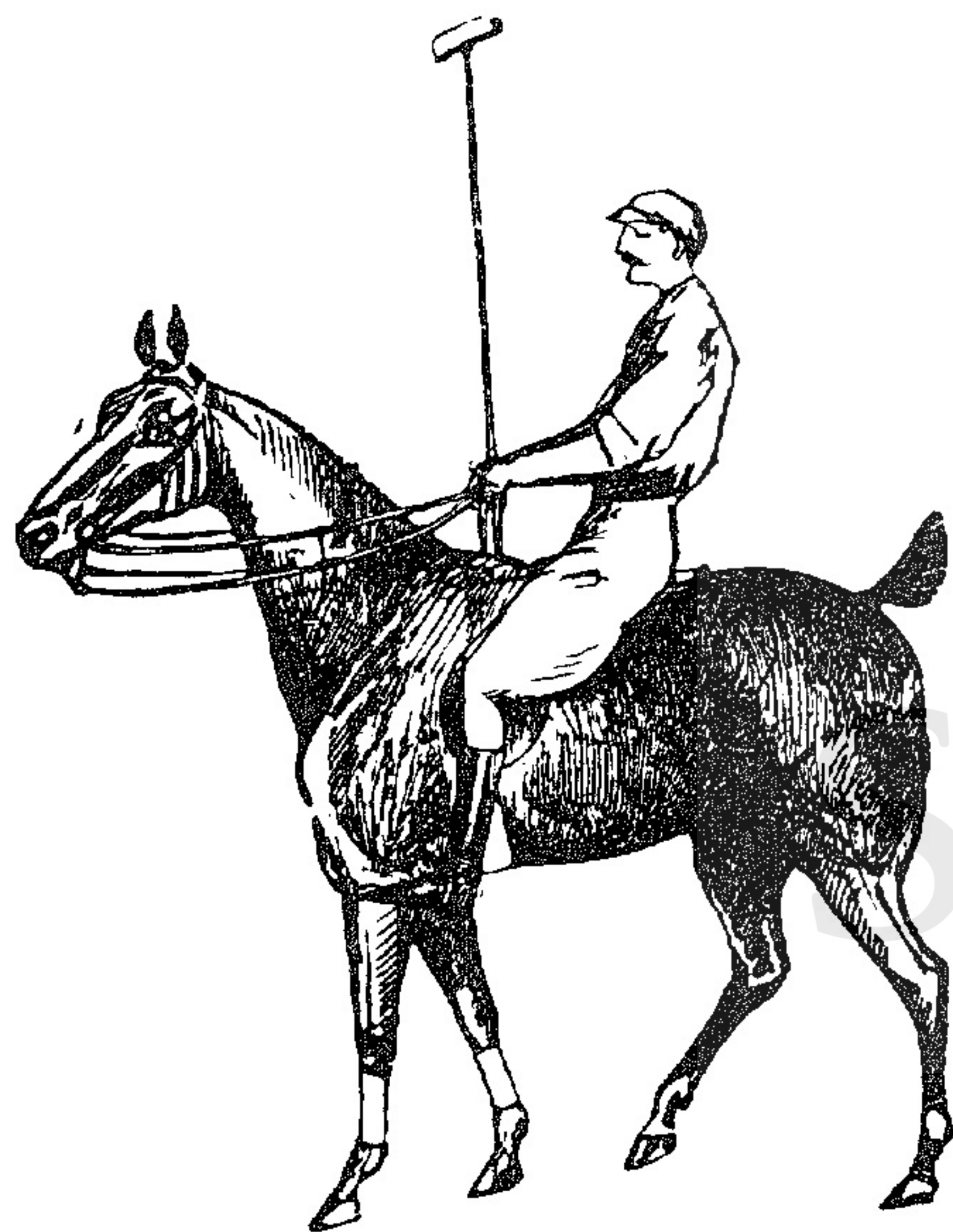
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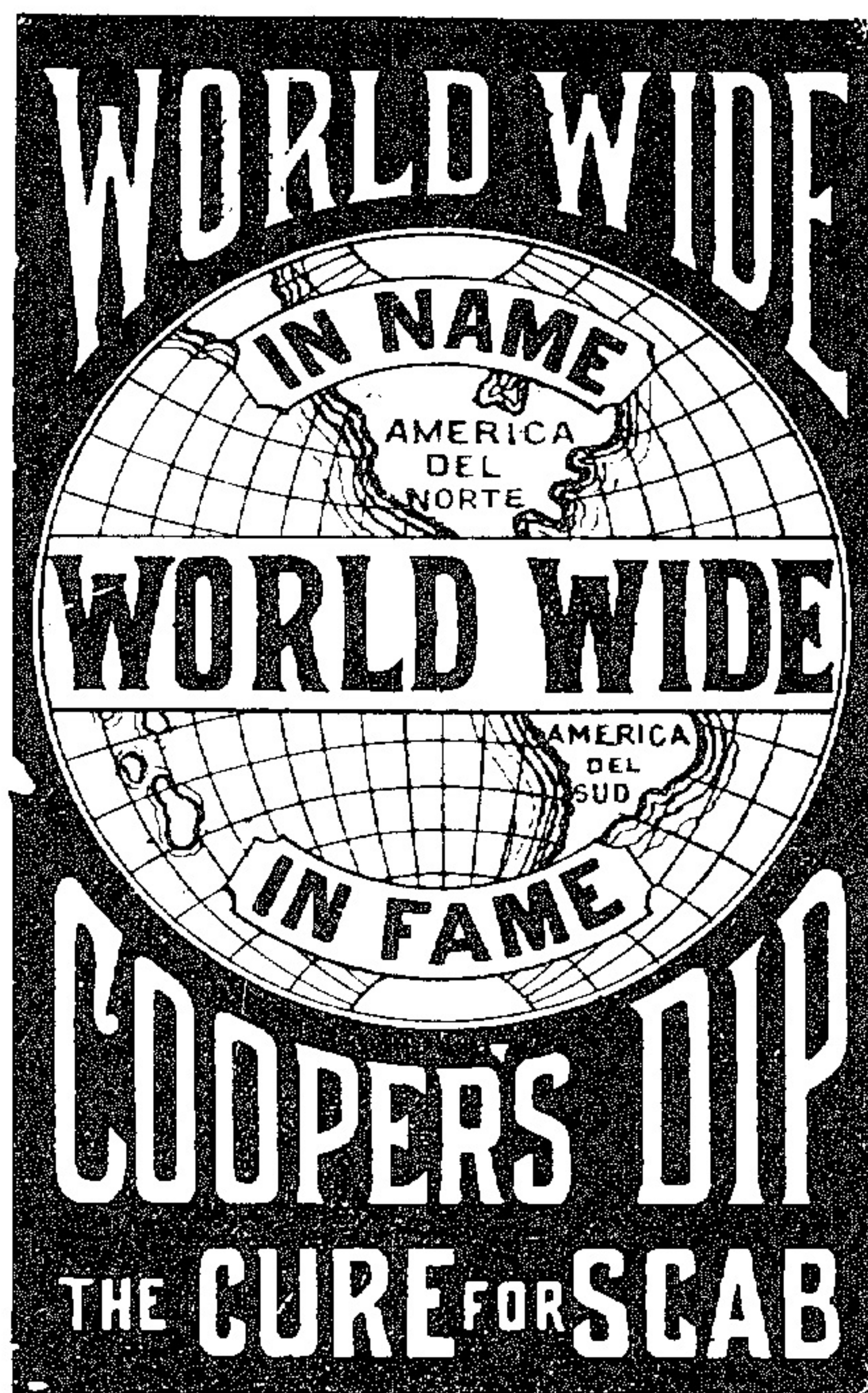
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Calle Chiclana 87 - Bahia Blanca.

NOTICE

OLD CARR has just received another large consignment of Ladies' and Children's Boots and Shoes. He has upwards of 50 dozen to choose from and all of the very best quality. He has also over 100 dozen of various assortments of Gent's Goods. He has now the best assortment of English hand-sewn Boots in the Argentine Republic.

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An important operation in live stock for exportation is the purchase by Messrs Kingsland and Cash, of 1500 steers and 3000 capones from Dr. Julio Pueyrredon. The animals referred to are from the celebrated Moro estancia in Loberia.

* * *

The sale is reported of 450 novillos for export to Brazil at \$45 each.

* * *

On Thursday of last week Messrs Funes Lagos and Co. sold the following animals:—

8 Lincoln rams imported by Mr Wilkinson for \$1085 or an average of \$135.60 each.

10 Lincoln ram Lambs imported by Mr Wilkinson for \$1,195 or an average of \$119.50 each.

5 Lincoln rams bred in the country at \$70 each.

The buyers were Messrs Figueroa, Erramouspe, Reynoso, Menvielle and Sabatté.

* * *

Mr C. S. Clarke of the estancia Augusta Azul has sold 125 cows and calves, the culls of his rodeos at \$23.80 al corte.

* * *

On Thursday last Messrs Leanes Lartigau and Co sold in the Corrales a point of export steers at \$42 gold each.

* * *

Mr Edward Mussy has sold to Messrs Parker and Fraser, from his invernada at Ezeiza, F.C.S. 100 export steers at \$36 gold each. The same exporters have purchased from Messrs Lazaro Repetto and Co. 1000 export capones from an estancia in Ayacucho at \$2.80 gold each.

Messrs Nicolich and Co. have bought several important lots of novillos for export to Brazil at \$40.

* * *

"La Nacion" in its issue of the 3rd inst., under the heading of "El Transporte del Ganado en el Atlantico Norte" refers to the record of the s.s. Georgic of the White Star Line which on 13 voyages carried 11,168 steers without losing a single one, and goes on to say that in the year 1898 the Leyland Steamship Co. carried 37,322 steers with a loss of only 17 animals, or rather less than 1 animal for every 2000.

* * *

Messrs Bunge and Costa have sold to Sr. Alberto Prin, 500 export capones at \$3.20 gold each, placed on waggons. The capones are from an estancia in the partido of Magdalena.

Sr. Alejandro Madero has sold to Messrs Parker and Fraser, a batch of export steers from his estancia at Maipu, at \$37 gold each.

Messrs Nicolich and Co. have purchased a lot of 650 novillos for export to Brazil at \$40 each.

* * *

The sale is reported of 800 criolla cows for invernada from an estancia in the partido of Laprida, at \$18.00 each. The buyer is Sr. Alberto Barrenechea.

* * *

Our colleague "El Campo y El Sport" has changed its dates of publication and will in future appear on Thursday, instead of as hitherto twice weekly, on Tuesdays and Saturdays. Subscribers will benefit rather than lose by the change, as to judge by the first number under the new regime, they will get a better periodical, more full of useful information, and with articles which have had the advantage of being well thought out, instead of being hurriedly prepared for printing.

* * *

In the number for last week there are three very good photographs of well-known winners on our racecourses, to wit Pillito winner of the Premio de Honor (1898), Gonin winner of the Premio Carlos Pellegrini (1898) and Primero winner of the Gran Premio Internacional (1898).

* * *

On Friday last Messrs A. Bullrich and Co. sold at auction the live stock on the estancia 21 de Marzo in the partido of Coronel Dorrego, the following being the result of the sale:—

1150 cows al corte at \$15.50 todo lo que pisa campo.

100 working bullocks at from \$35 to \$42 each.

92 Rambouillet rams at \$10, 16,185 sheep at from 1.50 to \$4.20 for the Rambouillets and \$1.50 to \$1.70 the cross Lincoln. The blackfaced sheep only made \$1.50, 250 mares al corte at \$7, 780 mares al corte at \$5.146 horses at from \$18 to \$20.50 each. The buyers were Messrs Pervieux and Co., F. Ortiz, P. and A. Lanusse, N. Grondona and Parravicini.

* * *

The biggest plough in the world belongs to Mr Richard Gird, a millionaire farmer of California. This wonderful plough which is, of course, worked by steam power, is capable of turning over from thirty to thirty-five hectares of land per day; it has twelve steel shares, each share being thirty centimeters wide. It is six

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metres high, and weighs more than nineteen tons. It can work at the rate of eight kilometres per hour, and consumes three tons of coal per day. This colossal plough cost \$10,000 gold.

* * *

From the 1st to the 28th of January of the current year, the exports of live animals for food, and chilled beef, from the United States to Great Britain was as follows: 28,620 head of horned cattle, 26,160 sheep, and 121,400 quarters of beef. For the same period of last year the amounts were 41,544 head of cattle, 22,770 sheep, and 121,500, quarters of beef.

* * *

We understand that the Western Railway of the Province of Buenos Aires proposes constructing short narrow gauge lines of railway, to and through, various agricultural districts near the main line, and to act as feeders to the said main line. As is well known there is any amount of camp perfectly adapted to agriculture, in the west of the province and which owing to the distance from a railway station cannot be worked. Should this project of the Western Railway Company become a "fait accompli" it will open up immense tracts of country to agriculture, and the railway will benefit accordingly. We have no doubt of the success of the scheme, and as the provincial government appear to approve of the Railway Company's project, expect to see these auxiliary lines very shortly in course of construction.

* * *

The s.s. Kilburn sailing from here on or about the 14th inst will take to England a lot of 100 criollo horses; this is perhaps the biggest lot of horses shipped on a single steamer from here for England up to the present.

* * *

The s.s. Urmston Grange which left La Plata on the 1st of December last year, arrived at Deptford, having lost on the voyage 18 steers and 50 wethers. The capataz in charge of the stock, advised the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals that the mortality was due to the bad water supplied to the animals on the voyage, the water having been taken on board in the port of La Plata instead of as usual on the Banco Chico. The Society took steps in the matter with the result that the owners of the steamer have dismissed the captain. The owners of the live stock, Messrs Bossio and Camuyrano are suing the owners of the steamers for £750, at which they estimate the loss caused them by the captain's act.

* * *

Deptford, March 2—Steers ex s.s. Schonburg sold at £18 8s 9d and wethers at 35s.
Steers ex s.s. Livonian sold at £18 5s and wethers at 34s.
Steers ex s.s. Aachen not sold, wethers sold at 36s to 39s.

* * *

On Saturday last the 4th inst, Mr Nicholas Murphy, who, to borrow a daily colleague's expression, is a rising young auctioneer, and well known in camp business, brought to the hammer a camp in the partido of Chascomus, known as the estancia "Santa Elena" and belonging to the testamentaria of the late Georgina Bell de Bell. The camp was put up for sale in two lots, lot No 2 being offered first. This lot with the estancia house on it, was knocked down to Deytieux Hnos. at what seems to us the low figure of \$61 per hectarea. Lot No 1 only fetched \$51 per hectarea.

* * *

Messrs. Martinez Dauna & Co. have sold from their estancia "Manantiales," in the partido of Chascomus, 110 export steers at the very fine price of \$90 paper each. The purchasers are Messrs. J. Olde & Son.

* * *

Sunday next, the 12th inst., will be a great day at Venado Tuerto, as the big Remate-Feria to be held by Messrs. Larrechea and Co., comes off on that day. It should be a record Feria to judge by the catalogue, and the auctioneers will have to begin with the lark if they intend to get through in the day. Most of the live stock which will be offered for sale is from estancias belonging to Englishmen, but this is no surprising when one remembers what an English Colony it is at and about Venado Tuerto.

* * *

There is not much in the way of change to report in the wool market. Prices continue very firm, for good and fine qualities, the coarse crosses being as hitherto very difficult to place. Arrivals have dropped off very considerably, and sales have consequently followed suit. It is calculated that about 4/5 of the clip has already come into the markets. The daily arrivals are about 500,000 kilos. About 80% of the stock now in the Central Market, is wool of coarse crosses. A big parcel of special borrega wool was sold during the week at something over \$6.

* * *

The following cuttings from the "Live Stock Journal" are of interest:—

To what extent does the average temperament of a people influence the temperaments of the farm animals with which they

are constantly brought into contact? There can be no doubt at all that the social peculiarities inherent in the human kind are transplanted in a fashion into the privileged part of the animal kingdom—horses, cattle, and dogs. It is often said, for instance, that the Shire horse is easy-going in disposition, while the Clydesdale is apt to be over alert and keen. The generalisation, if just, is only so in a broad sense. Looking at it in that way, one might in part explain the differences of temperament in the animals by nothing the mental characters of the peoples who have to do with each class of horses. The masters and trainers of the Shire are, to a large extent of the calm, steady-going Teutonic element, while those who are most in touch with the Clydesdale have a considerable strain of the fiery Celtic element. To that one might further add the reflection that the Shire is the more naturally inclined towards a sedate habit of taking things, owing to his deeper and wider body, and larger digestive apparatus.

* * *

Passing from the general to the particular, it is a notorious fact that the trainer of an animal gives it a "set" for better or for worse. If a slow man gets an average pair of colts to train, ten to one the animals will fall into an easy way of going in cart or plough. A hurried, nervous kind of man, on the other hand, will be apt to transmit his own habit of haste to the young animals put under his training. How often does one see a young colt or filly which has been turned into a sort of nuisance by a fidgety, hurried trainer? The animal cannot stand with composure or walk in a dignified way; it is for ever in a flighty mood, as if it were a bundle of nerves. A gamekeeper with a right sort of head on his shoulders will have good sporting dogs. A calm collected shepherd, who speaks little, but who makes every word tell, is almost certain to have collies of the first rank for working purposes. Broadly put, therefore, the temperaments of our farm animals run parallel, so to say, with our own racial characteristics. It is evident, however, that the natural failings of animals will often lean to virtue's side just because the worst balanced of mankind will not, as a rule, knowingly breed useless, unsaleable stock.

PRICES.

Price of gold on the Bolsa from March 1 to March 7 inclusive:	
Wednesday.....	217.30
Thursday.....	217.50
Friday.....	217.40
Saturday.....	217.40
Monday.....	219.00
Tuesday.....	218.70
Messrs. Fortune and Monerelli quote us the following prices for the past week:	
fat cattle for consumption	\$
id. id. id. novillos	42-48
id. id. id. cows	28-35
Calves, large	\$9-12; small 4.50-6
Wool, fine	6.00-6.70
id. fine cross Lincoln	5.50-6.50
Hides, Cow.....	6.50-7.40
Sheepskins, consumo estacion, pelados... kilo	0.28-0.35
Lambskins,..... dozen	0.80-1.10
Sheep, Lincoln, export gold..	2.80-3.25
Id. Freezing.....	1.50-5.50
Id. Rambouillet, Lincoln	3.50-4.00
Ewes.....	2.40-3.50
Wheat, barleta... 100 ks	5.10-5.60
Id. French.....	5.20-5.55
Barley.....	3.40
Maize, Morocho, new ..	3.10-3.20
Id. amarillo, new.....	3.20-3.25
Hay..... 1000 ks	16.00-28.00

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LAS MACITAS.

The name of Colt will be familiar to the majority of our readers in connection with horse-breeding, but probably very few will have had the opportunity of visiting Las Macitas and of seeing the stock on that delightful estancia. Some of the estancias in the south of Entre Rios are no further from Buenos Aires in point of time than many in this province, and a night journey up the river is rather more preferable than one in the train, but Las Macitas cannot be reached under thirty hours and for this reason probably it is best known by reputation only. Some day, no doubt, the journey will be shortened—it should really be one of fifteen hours or so—but even at its present length we would gladly undertake it at any time opportunity occurred for a visit to the hospitable estancia and a look over the horses.

There are cattle and sheep at Las Macitas, but it is of the horse stock we particularly wish to write. The Messrs Colt commenced breeding horses twenty-seven years ago, and from the very beginning they have never lost sight of the object they had in view, which is to breed a horse which can race over any distance and at the same time, if he is not wanted as a racehorse, will be the best sort for hacking, hunting or even harness. The English thoroughbred is the only animal to fill this bill, and so a commencement was made with a horse called Murillo.

When Murillo arrived in Entre Rios he struck on troublesome times, as one of the great provincial revolutions had rebroken out and the horse had to be housed in the British Consul's back garden in Gualeguaychú, with the Union Jack flying over his box for some time before it was considered safe to take him out to the estancia. Previous to this he had to be kept in Buenos Aires on account of the original revolution in the province, and during his stay there he got for Mr W. Anderson a horse called Rinconero, which will be remembered, no doubt, by many old residents here as the winner of many races at Palermo.

The mares first commenced with by the Messrs Colt were obtained at great trouble. To insure their being of the right sort not only in looks, but in deeds, the dam and sisters of well known criollo racehorses were purchased. This was done at considerable trouble, but it was a labour that has since been well repaid. From the very first, the Las Macitas horses made a name for themselves all over Entre Rios, and up to the present day they hold a wonderful record of wins throught the province. Murillo, the first thoroughbred stallion used at Las Macitas was by Old Murillo out of Mary by Rasper out of Mignonette; Old Murillo being by Portrait by Stumps by Whalebone. He was a cross-

country horse and ran twice in Ireland, but with what success we cannot say. Murillo did good service at Las Macitas for some nine or ten years before he died, when the Messrs Colt obtained a horse called Othello from Mr Anderson. Othello was a very well bred horse, being by Saunterer out of Blackbird by Voltigeur out of Julia; Saunterer being by Birdcatcher out of Eenui by Bay Middleton, so his pedigree goes back to Blacklock and Whalebone on both sides. After Othello came the present Lord of the Harem, Sir Richard, who has now been at Las Macitas some nine years or so. Sir Richard's pedigree is worth investigation, and indeed it can bear the closest scrutiny, as it contains the best of blood going back to Touchstone and Venison on both sides. Sir Richard was foaled in 1885, by Merry-go-round out of Troven Gem by Pearlfinder out of Dodona by Oulston. Merry-go-round is by Scottish Chief out of the celebrated Spinaway by Macaroni out of Queen Bertha. Troven Gem was a good performer in her time. She won the Liverpool Hunt Steeplechase, and a Hunters' Steeplechase at Four Oaks Park, both of these races being of three miles, and she was placed third in a field of ten in the Grand Military Hurdle Race at Sandown Park. Spinaway's performances, which included nine wins, are perhaps too well known to require repetition. Sufficient to say that she won the Oaks, the One Thousand, the Doncaster Stakes, the Royal Stakes, Newmarket Oaks, and Yorkshire Oaks, besides other three valuable events. She was the dam of the great Busybody (winner of the Oaks, One Thousand, Middle Park Plate, etc.), and her dam in turn, Queen Bertha, also secured the Oaks, One Thousand, Prince of Wales Stakes, Dewhurst Plate, etc.

We have written enough to show that Sir Richard is a grandly bred horse, and as regards his make and shape no better could be found for the purpose of getting useful horses for any purpose, whether it be for winning classic races, or to fill a less ambitious mission in life as hacks, hunters or chargers. He stands over sixteen hands high, measures eight and three-quarter inches below the knee, and though perhaps he does not show much quality, especially as at present he is in such big condition, we do not think any the worse of him for that.

A trainer friend of ours said to us only the other day, "Give me a cart horse in appearance to begin on and, so long as I know he's bred right and moves well, I have no fear of turning him out a racehorse in time, but I never like to see a ready-made racehorse come into the place; a horse that looks as if had been trained when he has never done a gallop in his life; this sort, before I can get him half fit, if he has not already broken down, goes away to nothing, and I can hold up my stick and hide all that remains of him."

Our friend would rejoice if some one sent him such a horse as Sir Richard to train. We have seldom seen better legs and feet than he has or a more powerfully built horse for a thoroughbred and, after all, what more besides breeding is required. Sir Richard never ran nor has he ever been ridden, an accident to his jaw in his early days making it impossible to train him. His mares are three-quarters and five-eighths bred, by Othello, their dams being by Murillo.

Needless to say the colts coming from such stout winning strains make valuable horses, either on the racecourse or as hunters. We were shown a place in the small corral, which is used for marking and handling the youngsters, over which several colts have jumped without doing more than touch their hind feet. This fence is over six feet high and there is a drop of a foot or more on the far side. We also had experience ourselves of the Las Macitas horses' jumping capabilities. We had some sent down the other day, and no sooner were two of them put into Villalonga's boxes than they jumped out without touching a splinter. One cleared a gap of about ten feet as well as the end of the box and this, for a standing jump, will hardly be credited. On getting them home they treated the lower half of their box doors with the same contempt. If such horses do not make extraordinary hunters we do not know what will.

Besides Sir Richard's mares there are four manadas with three-quarter bred sires, the mares being half-breds, and the foundation of a thoroughbred stud has been made with three mares of which we shall presently have something to say, and to which two more, Suffrage, by Phoenix out of Good Trade, and Surprise, by Magician out of Victoria, purchased at the Las Rosas sale, have just been added. What we saw of the unbroken colts at Las Macitas convinced us that a purchaser could provide himself with a horse for any purpose, and though some are small, there are others big enough to carry sixteen stone over Leicestershire, but what we liked most about them was not only the knowledge that they had no other than thoroughbred and good criollo blood in their veins, but the proof of their careful breeding shown by their action, which in one and all was good.

The three thoroughbred mares we have mentioned are Catch-me-not, Ulrica, and Tauric, and there is a yearling filly out of the first named by Shrivvenham. These were purchased from Mr Harrison, whose estancia is across the river in Uruguay. Catch-me-not is a little bay mare by Robert the Devil or Town Moor out of Narcissa by Speculum. Narcissa, who won a number of races, is out of Gardenia by Macaroni. The latter mare won several valuable races, beating the Oaks winner, Geheimniss, in one of them. Catch-me-not herself won a good race at Newmarket, the Newmarket Two-year-old Stakes, and at Kempton she was returned winner of the Mortlake Two-year-old Plate. She has a colt foal at foot by Shrivvenham.

Ulrica is a big fine mare by Necromancer out of Miriam II. by Crown Prince, by Newminster. Miriam II. was a great winner in Ireland, and secured five Queen's Plates of from two to four miles and the Royal Whip. This mare has at foot a chestnut colt foal by Shrivvenham.

Tauric is by Marden out of the Queen of the T.Y.C. by Prince Charlie. Queen of the T.Y.C. won no less than ten races, and was placed in eight. Tauric has a bay filly foal at foot by Shrivvenham. The sire of these mares' foals, Shrivvenham, now dead, is by Pellegrino out of Queen Esther by Warlock out of The Thane by Stockwell, Warlock being by Irish Birdcatcher. He won thirteen races during his career on the turf which included the Midland Handicap at Leicester, a Welter Handicap at Sandown, the Autumn Handicap at Lewes, the Granby Handicap at Croxton Park, and two Hurdle Races at Leicester. With such a good foundation Messrs Colt should breed winners in plenty.

There are many lovely bits of country in Entre Rios, but few more lovely than some parts of the Las Macitas camp. The most of the place is wooded, and there is a very pretty lake of about sixty squares extent on one side, so that for scenery the estancia has few equals and many of the views one gets when riding through it makes it difficult to realise one is not at home in England. With plenty of shade, soft sweet grass, and good natural watering places it is no wonder the stock all look well especially as some of the paddocks could not have been laid out better by man for the purpose than nature has done for him. Messrs Colt own a league and three quarters, but they rent a league and a quarter from Mr Callandar, and so the whole place measures three leagues. The "monte" on a place like Las Macitas must be a regular gold mine. The trees consist of ñandubay, algarrobo, and tala principally, and so needless to say the fencing on the place is of the best, the posts being put, as in most Entre Rios monte camps, so close together as to do away with the necessity of having droppers. The original fences on the place were put up before wire was known in that part of the world, and they were made of logs and posts cut from trees with forks in their stems, the logs being laid in the fork. They make a very picturesque fence, but the danger from fire is very great, and Mr Colt told us of one fence that in a very short time was destroyed to the extent of ten thousand dollars damage, only a thin line of

ashes remaining to mark where it had been. Wood cutting for fire wood, and fencing posts is actively carried on in the monte, the contractors paying the owners so much a load for what they cut, and there were two lots of charcoal burners busily engaged during our visit. The latter also pay so much a sack for what they burn. In this way the only work the owners of the estancia have to do in connection with their monte is to take note of the contents of each cart as it passes out laden with fire wood, posts or charcoal. An Entre Rios monte therefore is useful and remunerative as well as ornamental, and though perhaps it may not suit sheep in many ways, the shade it gives is a great matter for horses and cattle in the hot months, and the shelter it gives to sheep in the lambing season and after shearing compensates for many of its drawbacks when our woolly friends are concerned.

The house of Las Macitas is a big roomy one standing on a hill, and looking over some of the prettiest bits of the surrounding country. There is a large garden, but unfortunately though they had left it alone hitherto, the locusts during our visit were just beginning to attack it, in fact the pests were swarming all over the camp.

The cattle number between three and four thousand, and are mestizo Shorthorns and Herefords. At present the export animal is not sought in the north of Entre Rios, but some day soon communication may be so simplified that cattle and sheep bred there may be brought down to the Buenos Aires or La Plata docks. At present estancieros rely principally on the saladeros for a market, and these do not require so good a class of bullock as the live stock exporter.

As, however, Messrs Colt have been improving their stock ever since they started their estancia thirty years ago the cattle are to-day of a remarkably good class, and many of the cows would, if put to pure bred bulls, give bullocks quite up to export form. The calving season was just ending during our visit, and we were astonished at the number of calves, the increase this year, if all goes well at Las Macitas, promises to be a record one. The cattle were all in capital condition, the locusts evidently having quite enough to feed on amongst the trees without making any appreciable difference to the grass, which, as rain has been abundant this year, is in plenty.

The only sheep on the place is one flock of Lincolns, which looked healthy and well and of good class.

Camp races and race meetings of the old-fashioned order are getting scarcer every day, but in Entre Rios they seem to be more popular than nearer Buenos Aires. Most of Messrs Colt's buyers used to be men on the look out for a "parejero," and indeed they still are, though we should imagine the horses now bred show their qualities too plainly to suit the requirements of the average buyer of a "cancha" horse, though some still come all the way down from Corrientes to pick out likely colts, and the Macitas mark is a guarantee of excellence all over Entre Rios.

Mr Colt has many interesting tales to tell of some of the old mares and horses on the place, which after an unbeaten record on the racecourse are now ending their days peacefully at the estancia. As soon as it was known that one of Messrs Colt's horses had been matched against another there used to be a regular competition amongst the owners of the neighbouring almacenes which had racecourses as to where the race should be decided, so great was the interest invariably shown in such events. Most of the matches were over a good distance of ground, not stupid little sprints over a few scores of yards which test neither the speed nor the stamina of a horse.

The only horse bred at Las Macitas we have seen run here in Buenos Aires was Mr J. Bennett's Kingslake, which untrained and carrying seven kilos more than the winner, ran second to Blairmore in the Ayrshire cup of 1895 in the biggest field that has ever started for the race. He might have won, we remember, had not the horse in front of him pulled over the last hurdle which sprang back into his face as he came up to it and so threw him completely out of his stride.

As Messrs Colt have lately sent down a number of their horses for sale in Buenos Aires, no doubt we shall see one or more make a bid for the more important of the steeplechases at Hurlingham this year.

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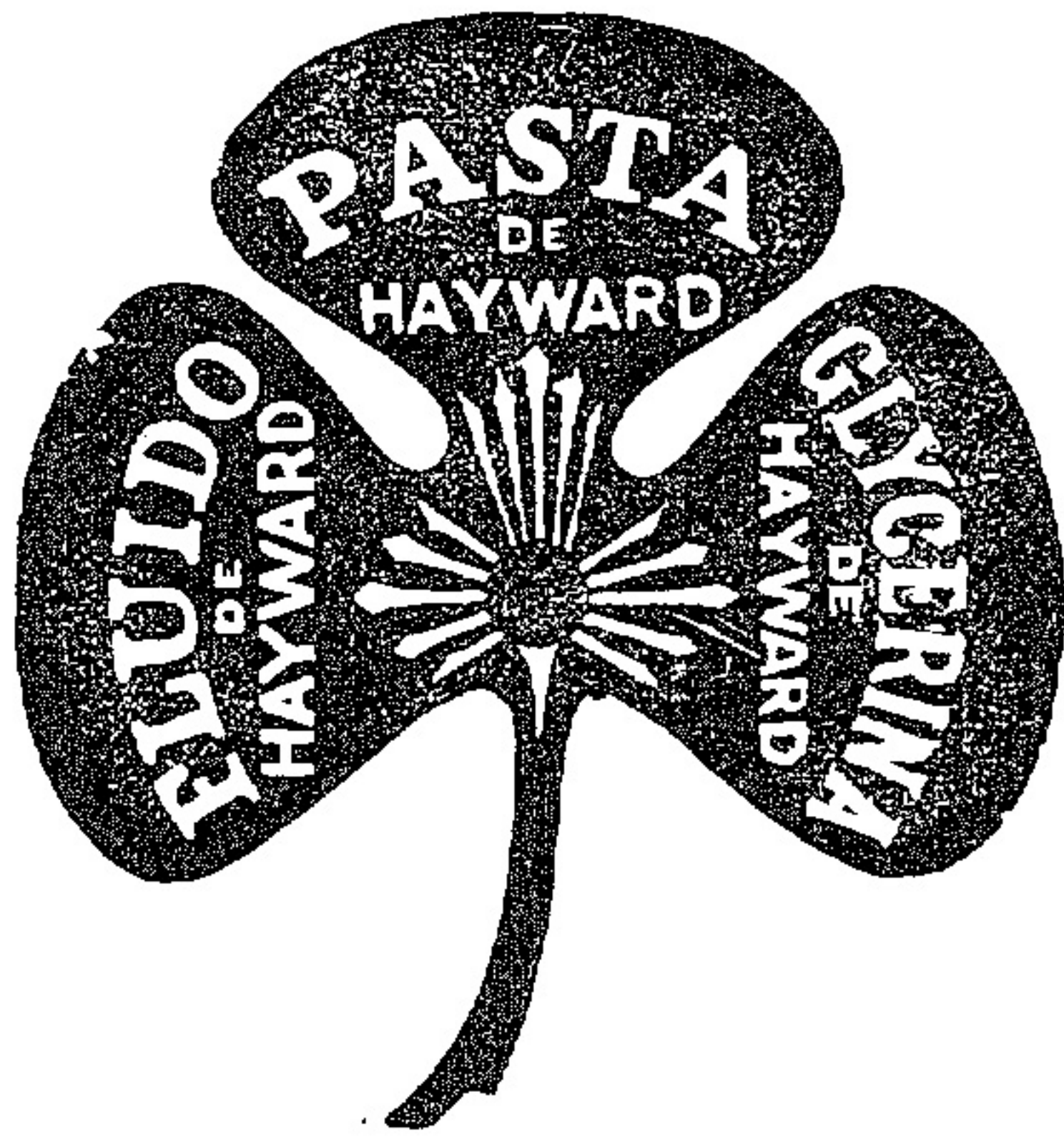
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34 - CALLE RECONQUISTA - 34



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All communications should be addressed to THE EDITOR, RIVER PLATE SPORT AND PASTIME, PIEDAD 559, BUENOS AIRES.

The writer's name and address are required with all letters, but not for publication, unless desired. Letters and inquiries from anonymous correspondents will not receive attention.

Advertisements, orders for papers, etc., should be addressed to PIEDAD 559, BUENOS AIRES, and should be kept distinct from communications intended for the Editorial Department.

AGENTS.

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Proprietor and Editor J. O. ANDERSON.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8, 1899.

NOTES.

The heavy storm which broke over the town on Sunday morning last effectually put a stop to all outdoor sports, if we except the races at Palermo, and although the afternoon turned out beautifully fine, such had been the force of the storm that most of the grounds were under water and all the cricket matches arranged for last Sunday had to be cancelled. This is much to be regretted as there were some good games down for decision, and as the season is fast drawing to a close cricketers want to get as much play as possible before winter sets in.

* * *

We have received Wisden's Cricket Almanack for 1899 and, as usual, find it replete with most interesting matter for cricketers. The five great players of the year whose photographs form the frontispiece are W. Storer, A. E. Trott, C. L. Townsend, W. H. Lockwood, and W. R. Rhodes. In addition to the carefully compiled statistics, and to the interesting articles always to be found in Wisden's, there is a chapter devoted to the leg-before-wicket law, in which several prominent authorities on cricket

give their views concerning the subject. Altogether it is one of the most interesting cricket almanacks we have read, and no cricketer should be without it.

* * *

On Saturday next, the 11th inst., our old friend and well-known sportsman, Mr. Denny Stokes, will enter the ranks of the Benedicts. We feel quite sure that every good sportsman in the Plate will join with us in wishing Mr. Stokes and his bride a bright and happy future.

* * *

We find that we were not quite accurate in our remarks concerning Mr E. Hunt in our last issue. Mr Hunt has played here once, if not twice before, for the Montevideo Cricket Club against the B.A.C.C. at Palermo, at which time he was always considered one of the best bats in the M.V.C.C.

* * *

We have received one or two letters complaining that the average lists are not strictly correct in one or two instances. We beg to thank our correspondents for pointing out the errors referred to, and which on revision we have found to be the case. As there was no cricket last Sunday we are not publishing the averages to-day, but they will appear again in our next issue, carefully revised.

* * *

We publish to-day an interview with the young Surrey professional, W. Lees, who has just left us after a stay of some four months. It is true that a great many people strongly object to being interviewed, but we hope from time to time to publish others, if possible, with some of our leading sportsmen in the Argentine.

* * *

With regard to to-day's interview, what will probably strike most of our readers will be the remarks that Lees makes regarding our grounds and ground-men; and the proposal that we should get out English ground-men to look after the wickets is certainly worthy of serious consideration on the part of those of our clubs who can boast of having grass wickets. As far as we can ascertain the expense would be very little more, while the advantage gained would be incalculable, for as Lees sagely remarks, without good wickets, we shall be unable to get good cricket.

* * *

Our last mails to hand (February 11) record the death of the well-known cricket professional, Davidson, from acute pneumonia, in his thirty-third year. Davidson was apparently in the prime of a career which had already lasted a considerable time, as it was in 1886 that he made his *debut* in county cricket. His loss to Derbyshire must be well-nigh irreparable. The county has for several years not been one of the most fortunate, and it has constantly had to cope with a deficiency of professional bowling talent; but Davidson was a man who in victory or defeat might always be trusted to keep up an end, and it is not too much to say that in a very great proportion of the matches he was the mainstay of his side. His bowling was of fast medium pace, and it was remarkable for its unflinching accuracy. Though in the course of a long day he might be taken off and put on again and again, Davidson always displayed the same alacrity and activity, and it was not often that his deliveries were seen to decline in pace or precision, however hard the work he was called upon to perform. With a good deal of spin, which caused the ball to come straight and quickly from the pitch, he possessed also the art of bowling a very tempting off-ball, to which many good batsmen have fallen victims.

* * *

We well remember the first time we batted against poor George Davidson's bowling, and how struck we were with his peculiar run to the wicket before delivering the ball, for he used to start from almost mid-off and approach the wicket in a semi-circle. But it was not only as a bowler that Davidson shone for he was a most reliable batsman, getting runs on all kinds of wickets. It was largely in consequence of his success that Derbyshire attained the rank of a first-class county in the summer of 1894, when he rose to the occasion with a batting average

of 25, besides bowling figures of 73 wickets at a little over 11 runs per wicket in first-class county matches. The then rare feat of making 1000 runs and taking 100 wickets was accomplished by him in 1895, and he was within a little of repeating it in the following year, when his county batting average advanced to 43, with a highest score of 274 against Lancashire. He headed both the batting and bowling lists in 1897, and last season took 91 wickets for 15.41 runs each in first-class matches, doing excellent service both with bat and ball for the M.C.C., and bowling nearly twice as many overs as any other member of his county eleven.

Now that Lees has gone we should like to draw attention to a fact that is apt to be lost sight of by a great many, and that is the debt of gratitude our cricketers here owe to Mr Kingsland for his share in helping us to get out a first-class professional. Let it be remembered that without this enthusiastic cricketer's hearty co-operation in the matter we should probably have found ourselves unable to engage Lees, so that our very best thanks are due to him.

A cablegram was received at "The Sportsman" office, London, on the 8th of last month from Prince Ranjitsinhji, announcing his intention of taking out an English amateur team to India next winter, a fact which will be rendered all the more interesting by the visit that the English cricketers are to receive from an Indian team in the season of 1900.

According to present arrangements Ranjitsinhji will return to England about Easter, and will assist Sussex this coming season. He has been absent from England for eighteen months and his return will be hailed with joy especially by Sussex cricketers. He will thus be able to personally arrange the selection of his own party, and whilst on tour in India will be able to lend his valuable aid in the choice of the side that is to visit England, and which, it is said, the Prince has consented to captain.

Two teams have previously visited India, under the direction of Mr G. F. Vernon and Lord Hawke. The former team went in 1889-90, when they placed the excellent record of ten wins, one loss, and two drawn games to their credit. Lord Hawke's team visited India three years later, on which occasion fifteen games were won against a couple of defeats and half-a-dozen drawn games. Since then, however, the standard of cricket in India has been considerably raised, and the next visiting team will have to look to their laurels.

We hear that two of the oldest Hurlingham residents have challenged any other pair of members at bat fives. The challengers, who are Messrs Ravenscroft and Fortune, are playing very well together, and Messrs Sheehan and Howard, who have accepted the challenge, will find them a rather hard nut to crack. We understand the time and date for the match, which is already creating considerable interest, has not yet been decided upon.

The sale of Mr Kemmis' Stud was fully dealt with in our last issue. Most interest was attached to the sale of Orville and Martlet. No two better bred animals are in the country. Orville's unique pedigree is too well known to require further remark here, but perhaps there are many of my readers who do not know that Martlet is own sister to Bend Or, being by Doncaster out of Rouge Rose. Martlet is seventeen years old, but went decidedly cheap to Mr Unzué's bid of \$1200.

What an opportunity any one with a few spare dollars had of starting a thoroughbred stud at the sale of the Las Rosas horses on the 26th of last month. Breeding horses is, as a rule, not a very remunerative occupation, though undoubtedly a very pleasant one, but in this country it does not seem difficult to make thoroughbreds pay a good return on capital if the right sort are kept. A glance at the prices of the spring sales will prove this.

At the sale we were of opinion that Orville at three thousand dollars was not a cheap horse, but, after all, should his two-year-olds this year prove as good as they promise he will be worth thirty thousand, and should they turn out no better than his get in former seasons he must be worth, at least, three thousand, as the best of his youngsters alone will always fetch that amount at auction.

Somehow or other, we do not quite know how, the Jockey Club was able to hold its opening meeting at Palermo last Sunday. Many old racing men were astounded on Monday morning to read that the meeting had been held, as it was regarded by the majority as an utter impossibility. Another storm of exceptional violence accompanied by a perfect deluge, brought to a close a very miserable day for all sportsmen and it is seriously to be hoped that there will be no more holidays spoilt for some time to come.

The torrents of rain that fell on Saturday and Sunday morning spoilt what would have been an appropriate introduction to an interesting racing season. The programme was unusually well filled, probably owing to the Belgrano summer season keeping the horses in training, but of course there were numerous desertions and running in deep mud on the inner course does away with all form. Ten of the sixteen young ones sported silk, including Pensamiento, a son of Chiliarch and La Cocarde, a daughter of Friedland, new as sires, but old friends on the flat. The running in such a "pantano" could be no criterion, but the general impression on the appearance of the youngsters was not favourable. Granido, own brother to Maraton and Juncal, and Thetis, a daughter of Eridan and Tirza, of both of whom great things are expected, were wisely kept for a more auspicious occasion.

We were shown the other day some very neat things in the way of folding catres, furniture, etc. One very useful article, especially in this country, is a kind of catre-bed which, while strong and comfortable when open and quite long enough for even a tall man, folds into a space so small that two or three could easily be stowed in a boat when going up river or camping out for a few days. Another advantage which this catre possesses is an attachment for a mosquito curtain and those who have, when sleeping out in the open on a warm night, been driven nearly mad by these little pests, will no doubt appreciate this feature. For camp men the catre as well as some of the other furniture could easily be shoved on to a pack horse, while for town one or two could be pushed under an ordinary bed and provide excellent shakedown in case of an invasion of chums. There are also folding tables, which are strong and neat, baths, etc., and we would advise a visit to 34 Reconquista, where our friend, Mr R. H. Morgan, will no doubt be pleased to give a practical illustration of the portability and usefulness of the goods which he advertises in another column.

We hear that several golfers are already getting to work, and clubs are being overhauled and polished up on all sides. The coming golf season should be a very successful one, and there can be no doubt that the enthusiasm for the royal and ancient game among our athletes here is spreading enormously, and we shall hope to see some of the clubs putting two teams into the field this year.

Some of the inter-club matches cause great interest and are generally much enjoyed by the players, most of whom infinitely prefer them to competitions. At the same time in a club of say sixty or seventy playing members all cannot get into the representative team, so we hope an effort will be made to arrange second teams to play on the same day as the first, and we think the innovation would prove a great success.

Endeavours have been made in the States for the Australians to repeat their visit of three years back on their return journey. The suggestion is that they should play three games in Philadelphia and one each in

New York, Baltimore, Toronto, Chicago, and San Francisco, where they would embark for the colonies. So far the Melbourne Club seem disposed to fall in with the idea.

* * *

The International Rugby match between England and Ireland, a short account of which appears elsewhere, resulted in a victory for the latter by a penalty goal and a try to nothing. With so little scoring done it might be supposed that the game was a closely contested one, but rarely, if ever, has an Irish team shown so decided a superiority over an English fifteen as on February 4th at Dublin. Ireland had come out of the previous three matches successfully, and, up to this one, England had claimed sixteen victories to Ireland's five.

* * *

We have received from the popular secretary of the Albion Football Club, Montevideo, a detailed report of the performances of the club's football team last season. Altogether up to March of last year the number of matches played was 71, of which 38 were won, 19 lost and 14 were drawn, the goals scored being 196 in favour of the club and 154 against. Up to September last, when the past season closed, the club altogether had played 101 matches, of which 53 were won, 25 lost and 23 drawn, the goals in their favour being 74.

* * *

This is a distinctly good record, and had they been better represented in their matches over here it would be better still. It will be remembered that some of their regular team were unable to cross over, with the result that in the three matches they only scored one goal to the ten of their opponents. We hear that they have taken a new ground in a more convenient situation than the last, so it is to be hoped that all our clubs here will find their way over this coming season. They may be sure of a good game and a right royal time at the hands of the Albion F.C.

* * *

It is said that indignation has been aroused in Ceylon on account of Sir West Ridgeway, the Governor of the island, having booked his passage to England by the German steamer *Barbarossa*, as there are a number of British steamship lines touching at Colombo. It was thought that Sir West Ridgeway should have booked by one of these lines instead of by a German line which competes with British mercantile shipping. Sir West Ridgeway has now given his reasons for selecting the German *Barbarossa*. He wants to bring his dog home, and the rules are so stringent on British liners that he has had to choose a German boat, where there are no particular rules about the conveyance of passenger's dogs.

* * *

It is reported that a well-known Austrian chemical expert on high explosives has produced a smokeless powder which is as trustworthy and safe as common gunpowder. It is free from nitro-glycerine, and overheating affects it very little. It is also cheaper than ordinary smokeless powder. The discovery has caused a sensation in Continental military circles, and full particulars may be expected shortly.

* * *

Here is a good story of Sandow, the "Strong Man," from "M.A.P." It seems that in spite of his many wonderful feats of strength, he had never studied the art of scientific boxing; and, on being chaffed about this by his friends, decided to take some private lessons of Ned Donnelly, the famous boxing master, and astonish them. He accordingly made an appointment with Mr. Donnelly, and at the time fixed presented himself and explained what he wanted. "Well," said Mr. Donnelly, "I will first make clear the theory of the best way to deliver your blows, and then we will have a spar with the gloves on, to enable you to put your knowledge into practice."

* * *

And this they accordingly did. But, alas! for the pupil, whose intentions were so excellent, and the master, who so rashly entered into the unequal fight! Br-r-r! At the first blow, Sandow managed to break down his tutor's

guard and smash his arm into the bargain, and poor Ned Donnelly was carried away senseless to bed, where he remained for many a long day; while Sandow's first and last boxing lesson---for no other master would undertake such a pupil---cost him £100 by way of voluntary compensation.

* * *

An extraordinary shooting adventure, which has the advantage of being easy of belief, is recorded by Mr. A. L. Butler, of the State Museum, Selangor, Malaya, in the last number of the Bombay Natural History Society's "Journal." One day in last July a Malay woodcutter went out into the jungle to cut fuel, taking with him, on the off-chance of a shot at deer, an old single-barrelled muzzle-loading gun, loaded with the rather unscientific charge of a bullet and four buckshot. Moving quietly through the jungle, he suddenly came upon a tiger feeding on the carcass of a sambhur, and, with touching confidence in his weapon, fired at a distance of twenty paces.

* * *

The tiger rolled over, and, when the Malay cautiously approached, he found not one dead tiger, but two, the second having been hidden from the sportsman, though only a few feet distant from the animal he fired at. Mr. Butler, who made post-mortem examination of the tigers after they had been skinned, found that in each case a single buckshot had gone to the heart; one had also an insignificant wound on the head from another pellet. "For a really appalling fluke," as Mr. Butler says, this achievement of the Malay woodcutter will be hard to beat. It is certainly not a performance any sane white man will try to parallel, much less to eclipse.

* * *

Americans will be grieved to hear that "poker" has been declared a game of chance by a high judicial tribunal. Within the past decade "poker" has become so well acclimatised in Austria-Hungary as to become a social scandal. A paternal Government resolved to suppress this dangerous amusement, and two years ago proceedings were taken against a poker club. The statute making games of hazard illegal, however, dated back to 1784, and therefore could hardly be expected to include poker, and so the pokerists got the best of it. But the case was ultimately carried, on appeal, before the Supreme Court of Vienna, and that tribunal has decided that the element of chance so far predominates in the game over that of skill as to bring "poker" within the scope of the enactment. Indeed, the judges went so far as to assert that "bluffing," where intellect comes into play, was the worst feature in the whole affair!

* * *

To those of our readers in this country, where the non-smoker is almost an unknown quantity, the following remarks by a celebrated London doctor may prove of interest. He says:—"The talk one hears of nicotine saturating the systems of smokers is absurd. Nicotine is a deadly poison, and it would take very little of it to kill a man. The truth is that very little is absorbed even by the most confirmed smokers. Now and then you read of men who die from excessive tobacco smoking, and are found on autopsy to be literally reeking with nicotine. This is all rubbish. Nothing of the kind ever happened."

* * *

"Again, it is a favourite experiment to blow smoke through a handkerchief, and the stain that it produces is popularly supposed to be made by nicotine. It is really oil of tobacco, which is of quite a different colour. The chief harm done by smoking is the stimulus which it gives to the heart. This is particularly true of cigarette smoking, where 'inhaling' is nearly always practised. Each time the smoke is inhaled it acts as a slight spur to the heart, and, needless to say, there is sure to be a reaction. If the smoker is in good general health he will probably never feel it, but if he is not there will be periods of profound depression. Those are the cold facts about smoking---none other are genuine."

* * *

The rarest bird in existence is found in the mountains between Anam and Loas, a certain kind of pheasant. For

many years its existence was known only by the fact that its longest and most splendid plume was in much request by Mandarins for their head dress. A single skin is worth £80. Unfortunately the sporting instinct is so strong in the average man that a rare bird has little chance of surviving if it strays into regions inhabited or shot over.

CRICKET.

FIXTURES.

MARCH.

- Sun. 19—Villa Devoto v. Santa Lucia, at Santa Lucia
- Sun. 19—Belgrano v. Flores, at Flores.
- Sat. 25—Villa Devoto v. Quilmes, at Quilmes.
- Sun. 26—Santa Lucia v. Flores, at Flores.

MONTEVIDEO A.C.—MARRIED v. SINGLE.

Played at Blanqueada, Montevideo, on Sunday, February 26, resulting in a win for the Married by 117 runs on the first innings. This, the first whole day Sunday local match played this season, proved very successful, and it will be a good thing for cricket if in the future more whole day matches can be arranged.

Contrary to the general expectation the married men gained a very easy victory. This was chiefly due to the extremely fine innings played by Chater, who made 52 in his very best form without giving the shadow of a chance, Alexander also played a very good innings of 72, but after the Bachelors' total was passed the attack weakened somewhat.

Adams made most for the bachelors, whom to judge by the amount of cheering they indulged in, were extremely gratified and surprised at being able to make 52 runs for six wickets in the second innings.

Bowles had by far the best analysis, his bowling in the second innings being very successful.

Full score and analysis:

Single.	1st inn	2nd inn	
Ellery c Peña b Thomas	9	b Bowles	0
Dunbar b Chater	6	did not bat	
E. M. Moor c Chater b Thomas	18	c Chater b Bowles	26
Adams b Peña	49	not out	9
Slater b Chater	0	not out	1
Cameron b Thomas	0	c Penny b Bowles	0
Dreever b Bowles	8	c Harvey b Bowles	0
Lodge b Chater	1	did not bat	
E. B. Cooper c and b Bowles	18	c and b Bowles	4
Wright not out	11	b Chater	8
Aniceto b Bowles	2	did not bat	
Extras	7	Extras	4
Total	129	Total (for 6 wkts)	52

Married.

Chater b Adams	52
R. Moor b Slater	12
Stanham b Slater	1
Bowles c and b Slater	6
Alexander c Dunbar b Aniceto	72
Penny b Slater	3
Thomas b Adams	12
Harvey b Aniceto	33
Vignoles b Adams	20
Crocker b Slater	7
Peña not out	2
Extras	26
Total	246

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

Single.—First Innings.

Chater	17	6	37	3
Thomas	13	0	51	3
Peña	14	3	14	1
Bowles	9.2	3	20	3

Second Innings.

Chater	6	2	15	1
Alexander	3	0	13	0
Bowles	4	1	20	5

Married.

Slater	28	3	94	0
M. Moor	8	1	31	3
Adams	17	1	64	2
Aniceto	6	2	17	0
Dreever	3	0	14	0

M. Moor bowled three no-balls.

THE ENGLISH TEAM IN SOUTH AFRICA.

EIGHTH MATCH—v. FIFTEEN OF JOHANNESBURG.

This match was commenced at Johannesburg on February 1, on a matting wicket. Rain interfered with play to a considerable extent, and the Englishmen lost one wicket for 64, Warner contributing thirty-three. On February 2 the score was carried to 399 (Tyldesley 44, Haigh 44, Mitchell 40, Board 36, Bromley-Davenport 32, Cuttall 28). The home team started very badly three of their wickets falling in the first over to Milligan, and at the close of the day's play four batsmen were out for 41. Some improvement was shown by the Fifteen on February 3, Solomon especially distinguishing himself with a well-played 64, and the innings closed for 136. Being 173 runs behind, a follow-on was necessary, and eight wickets were lost for 221, so the match was left drawn. Sinclair scored 56, Bevis 45, and Slatern 35. In the first innings of the Fifteen, Milligan took ten wickets for 64 and Haigh four for 45, and in the second Trott took three for 84.

NINTH MATCH—v THE TRANSVAAL.

On February 4, the Englishmen were opposed by a representative eleven of the Transvaal, matting again being used. The home team opened the batting and scored 211 (Solomon 52). Trott took seven wickets for 74, and Haigh two for 45. Warner, who went in first with Mitchell, was dismissed without scoring, but Tyldesley did better, and, at the close, the score was 83 for one wicket (Tyldesley, not out, 52; Mitchell, not out, 26). On February 6, Tyldesley and Mitchell batted in brilliant style, the pair putting on 109 runs in sixty-five minutes, when Tyldesley, who had previously not given a chance, was caught, his score being 114. Mitchell met with a similar fate. He was batting four hours and a half for 162, and gave two chances before reaching 100. Trott, Cuttall and Wilson also batted well for 47 (not out), 43, and 29 respectively, and so far five wickets had been accounted for at a cost of 427 runs. Lord Hawke declared his innings closed on February 7 when the score stood at 539 for six wickets. Trott carried out his bat for 101, included in which were two sixes. The Transvaal required 328 to avoid an innings defeat, but they only made a moderate response. Three wickets were lost for 49, and the whole side accounted for at 125, so that the Englishmen won by an innings and 203 runs. Trott took four wickets for 66, Milligan two for 34, and Cuttall four for 18.

RACING.

PALERMO—MARCH 5.

The programme for the opening meeting of the season on this course which was by no means the skinn one which has been usual on these occasions, was treated with scanty respect by the clerk of the weather, who converted both tracks into deep mud by pouring more water that morning on top of the rain of the previous day, so much so that the decision of the committee at 11 o'clock to hold the races was a surprise to those who heard of it, and little anticipated by many who remained at home. Of course the results were much affected by the state of the going and the use of the smaller track, whose sharper turns always make a difference. The fields were better than would have been supposed and the races not without interest and the dividends made a good average, an extraordinary one by Porthos in the selling Plate which would have reached \$240 being just staved off by Chingolo.

Ten of the young ones turned out for the initial trial of the year but did not appear anything out of the way, the only one shewing speed being Argentina, a daughter of Neapolis of whom great expectations were formed but who shut up at the paddock, perhaps owing to the heavy travelling. The return home was accomplished in a perfect deluge and we will hope for the old Jockey Club luck in the future.

PREMIO LANDSEER, for horses which have been a year in the country, have run more than once, and have not won. Weight for age. \$1500 to the 1st, 100 to the 2nd, 1600 metres.

Stud Red Lancer's Clamor, by Amianto—Lady Thurio,
3 y, 56 k.....I. Diaz 1
Stud Dunrobin's Clase, 4 y, 58 k.....S. Gomez 2
Stud Oriel's Bariloche, 3 y, 56 k.....E. Melo 3
Also ran—Maceo, Ocaso, Kaolin, Insular, Atrazada, and Puzilla.

Dividends—Clamor \$6.65 win and 3.20 place, Clase 6.50 place, Bariloche 5.80 place.

PREMIO REMATE, for horses of three years or more. Weight for age. The winner to be sold for \$3000, those entered to be sold for less to be allowed 3 kilos for every \$500 reduction, 3 kilos extra for every win in a Premio Remate in 1898 and 1899. \$1700 to the 1st, 100 to the 2nd; 1200 metres.

Ecurie Galette's Chingolo, by Eridan—Bandana, 4 y, 50 k
G. Morales 1
Stud La Aurora's Porthos, 3 y, 45 k.....J. Rivas 2
Ecurie Prisonero's Loncoy, 4 y, 50 k.....J. Paez 3

Also ran—Juan Manuel, Emir, Querandie, Azteca, Candil, Eco, Evangelina, Chamillac, and Calchinera.

Dividends—Chingolo \$14.80 win and 6.70 place, Porthos 37.15 place, Loncoy 6.25 place.

PREMIO HIPOCRITA, handicap for all horses. \$1800 to the 1st, 100 to the 2nd, 1600 metres.

Ecurie Prisionero's Daza, by Solomon—Diane de Lys, 5 y, 57 k. J. Paez 1
Stud Criollito's Criollito, 5 y, 50 k. R. Gomez 2
Q. Gonzalez's Tula, 4 y, 48 k. J. Felitti 3

Also ran—Duque, Hidalga, Eclairé, and Ameliana.

Dividends—Daza \$10.15 win and 4.10 place, Criollito 6.30 place.

PREMIO APERTURA, for three-year-olds. Weight 54 and 52 kilos.

Winners of \$6000 to 10,000 3 kilos extra, of \$10,001 to 15,000 6 kilos, and of more than \$15,000 9 kilos, 3 kilos allowed to those who have not won more than \$3000. \$5000 to the 1st, 100 to the 2nd, 1800 metres.

Ecurie Belgrano's Senegal, by Soukaras—Natalie, 54 k. S. Urrutia 1

Ecurie Titan's Chicharron, 54 k. F. Perez 2

Ecurie Azur's Sentinel, 51 k. P. Lara 3

Also ran—Cravate, Pisco, Clavija, Zárate, Regalada, Oribe, and Olavarria.

Dividends—Senegal \$16.95 win and 5.35 place, Chicharron 4.30 place, Sentinel 8.50 place.

PREMIO BRANDZEN, for two-year-olds. Weight 54 and 52 kilos.

\$1800 to first, 100 to second. 1000 metres.

Stud Yuqueri's Caprice, by Carasco—Cape Race, 52 k. C. Cardoso 1

Stud Gordon's Lybia, 52 k. S. Urrutia 2

Stud Necochea's Argentina, 52 k. C. Bustos 3

Also ran—Pensamiento, La Cocarde, Contenta, Serafina, Egipcia, Duchess, and Selima.

Dividends—Caprice \$12.36 win and 3.90 place, Lybia 5.15 place, Argentina 3.35 place.

PREMIO DISTINGUIDO, handicap for all horses. \$1800 to the 1st, 100 to the 2nd, 1700 metres.

Stud San Gregorio's Caseros, by 3 de Febrero—Trompette, 4 y, 44 k. C. Bustos 1

Stud Gordon's Araujo, 3 y, 53 k. F. Perez 2

Ecurie Jupiter's Abrojo, 4 y, 47 k. Z. Lacruz 3

Also ran—Juncal, Pas-si-bête, and Amambay.

Dividends—Caseros \$11.85 win and 3.85 place, Araujo 3.55 place.

PREMIO TANTALO, handicap for all horses. \$2200 to the 1st, 200 to the 2nd, 2200 metres.

Stud Sanducero's Salto, by Oriental—Regina, 3 y, 56 k. H. Esteves 1

Stud Necochea's Dinero, 3 y, 46 k. C. Bustos 2

Ecurie Titan's Dante, 5 y, 59 k. I. Diaz 3

Also ran—Rob Roy, Reyezuelo, Guttemberg, Centella, and Rosalvina.

Dividends—Salto \$11.75 win and 4.60 place, Dinero 3.15 place, Dante 4.30 place.

P O L O .

We have received the following clever lines from a kind subscriber, they being the ideas of one of his peones when being taught polo. The name of our kind friend will, we imagine, be guessed by most of our polo-playing readers.

EXPERIENCIAS DE UN CRIOLLO AL APRENDER EL JUEGO DEL POLO.

Yo soy mensual en una estancia
Y un día me dijo el patron
Vos á caballo sos medio gineton
Te voy á enseñar un juego cimarron.

Me hizo ensillar un bellaco
Y en la mano me puso un taco
Diciendome "tienes que pegar el bolo
Este se llaman los gringos el polo."

En una corrida que nos hicimos
Me dijo "tienes que estorbar de este modo,"
Y sin avisar me metió el codo
Que quasi me cayé de todo.

Pero cuando me juegas en contra
No me tienes que estorbar
A lo de mas hay que pastorear
Y de toda manera les aprovechar.

Otra vez me grito "Ride, ride,"
Y comprendiendo que tenia que hacer
Me largé adelante á todo correr,
Pero me dijo "Vos sos ofside,"

En otra vuelta me pegó con el taco
Y despues dijo, "No le hace,
Comprende que el juego base
En los golpes y machucones."

Me enganchó el taco sobre el caballo
Cuando queria pegar el bolo
Y dijo, "Este se permite á mi solo
Vos no lo tienes que hacer."

La pelota me pegó en la cabeza
Y me dijo, "Es una gran rareza
Que algo de mal te venga a vos"
Mientras no te destapas los sesos.

Pero al cabo me hizo un cruce,
Y no pudiendo sujetar mi pingo,
Ahi no mas lo voltié al gringo,
"Blast and d—n you," dijo en su lingo.

Desde entonces calmamos un poco.
De jugar tan interesante juego
Pero á todos mis paisanos les ruego
Tomar lecciones y ejercitarse luego.

(Firmado) Un hijo de este pedazo de cielo.

We have received the prospectus of the London Polo Club, and it seems from it that the English public are at last to be given the opportunity of seeing polo, and taking an interest in a game which must now be classed as one of the national games of Great Britain. The natural arena which forms the London Polo Club's ground at the Crystal Palace is capable of affording room for seventy or eighty thousand spectators.

This speaks for itself as being about the very best that could have been selected for a public polo ground, whilst the authorities appear to have made up their minds to cater regardless of expense for the comfort of members and their ponies. A new feature, hitherto only attempted once or twice before, will be the keeping of a stud of well trained ponies for the use of members of the club, so that should a member's ponies be disabled or unable to play he can hire for the day, week, or month as may suit him.

Foreign Members are to be especially catered for, as it is desired to give an international character to the London Polo Club, and thus induce teams to visit England. Every facility is to be given to foreign members who may desire ponies taken care of, the export and import of ponies being undertaken for members. A National Pony Show is to be one of the features of the season, on a scale hitherto not attempted, and altogether the new club intends to make a bold bid for first place in the polo world. It deserves every success.

The special privileges of a Foreign Member are as follows:—

The Subscription of a Foreign Member shall be One Guinea.

To constitute a Foreign Member, the Member must be non-resident within the United Kingdom. His name shall be entered in the list of Members, and he can become an Active Member at any time on paying the difference in amount of Subscription between the Foreign and Playing member.

He shall receive all programmes of events, and on visiting England shall be entitled to Six Free Admissions to the Polo Club Enclosure and Reserved Seats on application to the Polo Manager.

He shall be entitled to Stabling Ponies for short periods pending export or import.

Major Herbert is manager of the new club, and all communications in connection with it should be addressed to him at the Crystal Palace.

A subscriber has very kindly brought me news of the little mare Springtime, that was bought by Mr Varty to go to South Africa, and about whom we asked for news the other day in these notes. Springtime has only won one race since she arrived in South Africa, and we are told she is not within four stone of the best fourteen hand ponies out there, in fact the best two or three could give her five stone and then beat her. If the mare is well and in anything like the form she used to show here, this does not say much for our racing ponies, though as we have said before, the South African racing ponies are as good as any to be found, and are bred well enough to win the Derby.

At Monday's meeting of the Polo Association it was decided to hold the Championship Polo Tournament on the same days as last year in the last week of June. No representative from Hurlingham was present, but we have no doubt the arrangement will suit the club, as last year's polo week was for it the busiest of the season, and it is intended to make the tournament week of 1899

equally successful. Let us hope the weather will be more favourable. Mr F. J. Balfour takes over the secretaryship of the Association from the time of the meeting, and all communications in connection with it, should be addressed to him at 559 Piedad.

It is more than likely that the South and West will be better represented at the Championship this year than they have ever been before. The Western Club I fully expect to see send up a team, Media Luna is a certainty, of course, then the Pasto Puna team we hear intends coming, and the La Colina team are looked upon now as regular attendants, so that we may expect four teams at least from the south-west of Buenos Aires. Guleaguay will send a team this year, we are told, and this is particularly good news, so that with at least two teams from Santa Fé and two from Hurlingham there will be eight or nine clubs to compete for the cup.

An interesting match will be played next Sunday at Hurlingham under the title of Celts v. Saxons. Play will commence at half-past three in the afternoon, and judging from the names we have heard mentioned as probable players, an excellent game should result.

ROWING

Perhaps the rowing men were the only ones with whom the bad weather last Sunday did not seriously interfere, and we are glad to hear that some really hard work is being put in by several of the intending competitors for the forthcoming regatta.

For the Open Fours one of the Tigre crews contains three Old Bedfordians and we believe the wish is to try and find another to complete the crew. We hope that this wish may be fulfilled, as it would certainly add considerably to the interest of the race.

The present members are N. M. Whitworth, F. Corry Smith and H. Wibberley, the last-named having just arrived from the old country with a brilliant record, having, if we are not mistaken, stroked the Bedford Grammar School Eight at Henley. He should prove a great acquisition to the ranks of the Old Bedfordians here.

M. Kay is sculling in great form just now and is sure to start a warm favourite for the Bridgett Challenge Cup, although he will have it by no means all his own way, should his younger brother, who is quite one of the prettiest scullers on the river, decide to start.

The Junior Tigre crew which performed so brilliantly at the regatta in November is entered in the Open Fours. The crew, it will be remembered, is stroked by G. L. S. Wood—to whose watermanship their brilliant victories were to a considerable extent due—with A. im Thurn, H. Edye and E. L. Duggan, all real triers, and in spite of the presence of last year's senior crew of the Teutonia Club, we shall pin our faith to Wood's crew.

We hear many complaints from rowing men, and in our opinion not without cause, of the everlasting distribution of medals as prizes for the various events. There can be no doubt that the medal business has been utterly overdone here, and the sooner that committees realise that cups, or other articles of a similar nature, would make a welcome change as prizes, the better. We know of some here who have regular collections of medals, and the cry is "still they come."

CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor of the *River Plate Sport and Pastime*.

Dear Sir,—

In your issue of Wednesday, March 1, I observe some extracts from a letter of Mr Talbot's respecting horsemen, horses, and general stock in South Africa, and, as I was once a Cape Mountep rifleman myself, they interested me considerably, though, to tell the truth, some of the statements surprised me not a little.

With your kind permission I should like to supplement them with a few of my own.

With regard to the scarcity of stock at present, I am, of course, unable to speak, as I left the Cape in 1884, but up till then there was certainly no lack of horses, more especially in the Eastern province, though they certainly were dear. I do not for a moment assert that they even were as numerous as in the Argentinian

as no comparison is possible, but the Dutch or English Africanda farmer, who could not count his horses by hundreds, was then a somewhat *rara avis*, whilst in Basutoland ponies of from 13.1 to 14.2 were plentiful, and I must say that as handy, quick, hardy little gees, I would back these ponies against criollos, besides which they were all natural jumpers and mostly good hard colours.

Of the Umtata districts I know but little, but from East London to the Orange Free State, Basutoland, British Basutoland, and Moirosos Country, and The Transkei I was pretty well at home, and in all parts with which I was acquainted, it was a rare sight to see a nigger or a Dutchman, and by Dutchman I mean any Africander, on foot.

Now to come to Mr Talbot's remarks anent Africanda horsemanship. In my time, except amongst a few Englishmen, snaffles for which I must plead guilty to having a thoroughly English liking—were rarely seen, as even for the first gallop a long cheeked curb was almost invariably used.

The average Dutch farmer, too, has about as good an opinion of English horsemanship as the Argentine gaucho has for that of the "gringo." I must say that as rough riders, taken as a lot, Africanders are, or were, quite the equals of Argentinos, and some of the best trick riders I have ever seen have been amongst their number. As far as seat goes they are about as graceful as Argentine cavalry, as nearly all of them ride much too long for grace, but when it comes to stopping these they are, or were, very hard to beat, I never saw an Africander that is an Africanda horseman hang on by his bridle, nor, by the way, like many gauchos by his spurs.

To ride stock too in the outside camps, a man need be anything but a juggins on a horse, as the ground is in most parts very rough being covered with great iron stones, and bushes, and often fairly honey-combed by "meer cats" and "antbear" burrows.

All the stock horses which I rode were wonderfully quick, active, and well mouthed, in fact quite equal to really well taught cattle ponies in this country.

In the Craddock, Middleberg, Colesberg, Richmond, and other districts, at the time of which I write there were plenty of farms where good pedigree stock were bred—though in nothing like the number which are produced in this country—besides which the ostrich boom was then at its height.

To compare the Cape with Argentina is, I think out of the question, as the former is almost purely mineral whilst the latter is equally pastoral. I like the Africanda Dutch about as much as most Englishmen do, but I like to give even the Devil his due, and as camp horsemen they can certainly afford to laugh at the sneers of outsiders.

I must conclude by apologising for the length of my letter, and thanking you in anticipation for its insertion. I remain, dear sir, very faithfully yours,
H.

ROUND THE TOWN.

The wedding bells will be set ringing in good earnest this week as no less than two weddings take place on the same day at St. Johns Church, the lucky day being Saturday next. The first of these two joinings together in holy matrimony is that of Mr Roland E. Hunt and Miss Clara Colson, which will take place at 3.30. Mr Hunth as been well known in rowing circles for some time past and has, if we mistake not, assisted the Junior Four of the Tigre to a win or two or if not a win then a well fought race. Miss Colson has charmed all who have seen her on the amateur boards during the past two seasons of opera, and her presentation of Tessa in the Gondoliers and Elsie in "Yeomen of the Guard" will be remembered with pleasure, especially the latter in which her sweet voice had great scope. We trust for the sake of all that we shall not be deprived in the future of her able assistance in the operas which are already on the cards.

The second of the weddings which will take place on Saturday is that of Mr Denny J. Stokes with Miss Crane, the hour for which has been fixed at 5 o'clock. To write about our old friend Denny is difficult for he is so well known that it seems almost superfluous on the part of a paper to say anything, but as sport in this country owes much to him we cannot allow the opportunity to pass without in some slight way expressing our feelings. For many years, and even more in the old days than now, the name of Denny Stokes in the team of a club was proof that the club had at least one good man and true to do battle for it and many a match has his sterling knowledge of the game helped to pull out of the fire. Some of the slashing innings he played in days gone by were a pleasure to watch and now, although he does not give the time to it that he used to, it is worth watching him bother the bowlers when he has got set. Denny is popular and has as many friends as people he knows. We have no doubt that the church will be crowded on this occasion. Miss Crane

is the sister of Mr G. T. Crane of the firm of Toso, Crane and Co. and was out here on a short visit a year or so ago during the homeward voyage of which she caused Denny to forswear the bachelorhood in which he appeared to have settled down.

The storm of Sunday must have been slightly inebriated for it travelled round and round in a dazed kind of circle and just as we were flattering ourselves that it was all over came on again with stronger intensity than before. It knocked all cricket fixtures on the head and did our sporting Editor out of three or four pages of excellent copy, a most unkindly trick to play on a new or a comparatively new journal. However there is always a silver lining to every cloud and the streets etc. were all the better for the thorough washing out that they got!!

Years ago the Englishman in this city was a friend of the native, that is the Argentine, and was made much of and generally treated kindly. Of late years this feeling has been slowly but surely disappearing and the Englishman is not so much a "persona grata" as he was. This change may be noted in the caricatures which are published in "Don Quixote" and now in the recently sprung up "Caras y Caretas." The last of these, one picturing the Queen of England sucking mate and the Prince of Wales strumming on a guitar, is not quite as vulgar as some which were published during the war between Spain and the United States but it is quite vulgar enough. However, we should be thankful for even small mercies in this way and although the cartoon is vulgar it is not as vulgar as it might have been and probably would have been some years ago when the ideas of fun were a bit broader than they are now.

We went to the Passion Play the other evening in our round and found the theatre almost empty. True the weather was simply awful, raining cats and dogs, and not by any means the sort of night to go and see even a lively work, far less one as gloomy and severe as the representation now being given at the Politeama. We do not want in our advancing age to be thought irreligious so we cannot say all that we thought as the performance went on. Some of these thoughts were brought about simply by the knowledge that the affair was serious as in church there is always an inclination to laugh at the slightest slip, but there were certainly moments in the play when we had to hold ourselves in hard. The actor who plays Jesus Christ went through his part very well and acted well, but his voice was not very pleasing and this affected the drama to some extent. Pontius Pilate was the best speaker of the lot and created some excitement during his scene but the play as a whole is not inspiring or over well done, especially as regards the scenery and dresses. The price of admission is cheap only a couple of dollars for a stall and the play might have a good effect on some.

The Roman Soldiers in this play were about the skinniest lot of men, especially about the muscles of the arm that could well be imagined and if these chaps are supposed to represent the men who walked through the world conquering it in the good old days, the rest of the world must have been very miserable people indeed. Even the sturdiest of them would not have been able to resist a good rush from a fast three quarter while Tom Cannon or the Terrible Greek would have made a terrible hash of them in a very few minutes. Their drilling was also of a pretty inferior order and a couple of months in Plaza San Martin or the Paseo de Julio when the National Guards are out would have done them a deal of good. It is a sight like this that makes us feel that the historians were awful humbugs or that the empresario of the theatre was not sufficiently impressed with the modern craze for realism or he could never have exhibited such soldiers to a discriminating public.

Because it is getting slowly but steadily weaker.

We were pleased to see from a note of last week that the Committee of the Union de Regatas has decided to charge an admission fee to all boats which are on the course during the regatta on the 25th. It does seem hard that most of the expense, practically all of it, should have to be borne by the members of the subscribing clubs, more especially as the general public usually make high holiday on this occasion and get all their fun out of the pockets of others. We hope the Committee, or whoever has the ordering of such matters will put a thumping big fee on the steamers which go up the river on such days, as the big, ugly, dirty things get in the way when manoeuvring and stop in the way when moored taking up all the best stations and generally upsetting things all round. At the same time we must admit that it has the appearance of cheek for the river to be closed to some of its traffic but as it is in a good cause nothing can or should be said against it, even by those who have to pay the piper.

Mr P. H. Holland, of the shipping firm of Messrs T. S. Boardle and Co. goes home to-morrow on a visit to the old country. Mr Holland is well known in business circles in this city, and has also made several very satisfactory appearances in the cricket field this season. We wish him a pleasant time and a return in time for next year's cricket.

Cárlos H. Bell

AGRIMENSOR PUBLICO

La Plata, Calle 48--679

Programa de las Carreras

EN EL

Hipódromo de Hurlingham

El Sábado 25 de Marzo de 1899

Maiden Stakes.—Entrada \$10. Premio \$100; para petizos de 58 pulgadas ó menos que no hayan ganado una carrera en Hurlingham; peso por pulgadas; petizos de 58 pulgadas llevarán 78 kilos. Distancia 500 metros.

Polo Scurry.—Entrada \$5. Premio \$75; para petizos que hayan jugado al polo y no hayan ganado en Hurlingham, 58 pulgadas ó menos; peso por pulgadas; petizos de 58 pulgadas llevarán 78 kilos. Distancia 300 metros.

Opening Stakes.—Entrada \$10. Premio \$100; Handicap para petizos de 56 pulgadas ó menos. Distancia 600 metros.

Hurlingham Stakes.—Entrada \$10. Premio \$100; Handicap para todo petizo de 58 pulgadas ó menos. Distancia 800 metros.

Premio Mestizo.—Entrada \$10. Premio \$100; para todo caballo mestizo que no haya ganado en Hurlingham; peso minimum 60 kilos. Distancia 500 metros.

Las cartas de entrada se dirigirán al Secretario, Piedad 513 debiéndose adjuntar las entradas en dinero, hasta las 5 p. m. del 18 de Marzo de 1899, hora en que se cerrarán las inscripciones. Se necesitan á lo menos tres entradas para cada carrera. La Comision se reserva el derecho de alterar, estender, ó prorogar este programa si lo cree necesario.

LA COMISION.

TURF COMMISSION AGENT

Robert Masters,

No. 1 Bolt Court, Fleet Street, London, E.C.

Telegraphic Address—SPOT, London.

Starting Price Commissions executed at all meetings under Jockey Club Rules, and at the principal meetings under National Hunt Rules, and the prices regulated by the "Spotsman" returns.

The following are the only meetings under National Hunt Rules at which commissions will be executed: Birmingham, Derby, Doncaster, Dunstable Park, Gatwick, Hurst Park, Kempton Park, Leicester, Lingfield, Liverpool, Malton, Manchester, Newmarket, Nottingham, Plumpton, Sandown Park, Warwick, Windsor, and Worcester. Five per cent. will be charged on all winnings.

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HOME NEWS.

ROWING.

According to the last reports to hand the Dark Blues do not seem to be progressing so well, and up to February 6, the crew had not been finally constituted. Considering the early period of practice, however, the rowing is said to be very satisfactory. There is not much life about it, but as they have mostly been restricted to a stroke of twenty-six per minute that is hardly to be wondered at.

The order and latest weights are as follow:—

	st.	lb.
R. O. Pitman, New (bow).....	10	8½
2 J. A. Tinne, University.....	11	7½
3 C. E. Johnston, New.....	12	13
4 H. J. Hale, Balliol.....	12	11
5 A. H. Steel, Balliol.....	12	10
6 F. W. Warre, Balliol.....	12	11
7 A. T. Herbert, Balliol.....	12	10
H. Gold, Magdalen (stroke).....	11	8
G. S. Maclagan, Magdalen (cox).....	8	4¾

On February 11 the Light Blues completed their fourth week's practice, but the constant changing in the order has not given them a chance of really settling down, although on February 9 they did two important pieces of hard work and the rowing was satisfactory, considering the recent changes, being long and clear.

The order and latest weights of the crew are as follow:—

	st.	lb.
W. H. Chapman, Third Trinity (bow).....	11	1½
2 W. B. Rennie, Emmanuel.....	11	7
3 W. Dudley-Ward, Third Trinity.....	12	3
4 J. E. Payne, Peterhouse.....	12	9½
5 R. B. Etherington-Smith, First Trinity.....	12	1
6 R. H. Sanderson, First Trinity.....	12	11½
7 C. J. D. Goldie, Third Trinity.....	12	0
J. H. Gibbon, Third Trinity (stroke).....	11	3½
G. A. Lloyd, Third Trinity (cox).....	8	13

FOOTBALL.

RUGBY.

Although several important matches had to be scratched during the latter part of January and the first part of February, many games were played during the week ending February 11. The most important of these was, of course, the International match between England and Ireland. Extraordinary interest was evinced in the match, and all the seating accommodation had been bought up nearly a fortnight earlier. Hence it was not surprising to find an extremely large crowd, probably numbering 10,000, in attendance. There was one change in each of the teams—E. F. Fookes, the Yorkshire captain, appearing *vice* G. C. Robinson, who was unable to travel; while at the last moment, A. D. Meares, of Dublin University, had to declare off owing to an attack of influenza, and his place in the pack was filled by H. McCoul, of Albion, who represented his country two years ago. Thus there were eight Ulster, four Leinster, and three Munster men in the team, while all four three-quarter backs and three of the forwards were new to International honours. The weather broke down completely on the morning of the match, and, with rain setting in from an early hour and continuing to fall up to two o'clock, the turf was in a miserable state. After the game had been in progress a quarter of an hour the ground was thoroughly cut up, and, with the ball becoming heavy and greasy, one did not look for a very scientific exposition. However, from start to finish the pace was fast, and interest never flagged. It was the irresistible rushing tactics of the Irish forwards that won the day, and at times they fairly swept the visitors before them, while the latter palpably tired towards the end, and were outstayed as well as outplayed. Magee played a magnificent game behind the scrummages, and both in defence and attack shone conspicuously, while he captained the side with rare judgment. Allen, if not at his best at the commencement, improved greatly after the interval. For England, Taylor, however, gave a sterling display, and again and again did his best to make openings for the centre three-quarters, though they could not cope with the vigilance and sound tackling of their antagonists. The heavy ground evidently did not suit Rotherham. Harman and Allison were the best of the Irish three-quarters. Fulton was only twice in real difficulties, and he acquitted himself well. Of the forwards, M. Ryan, J. Ryan, Byron, and McIlwaine deserve credit for their splendid work, which so largely contributed to the success of the side. The visiting scrummagers several times carried the packs, but they were slow in the open. Dudgeon and Jacob were the best of them, and Davidson, Darby, and Thomas worked hard till the

collapse set in towards the end. Of the three-quarter backs, Percy Stout in the first half, and Fookes in the second, were of great service to the team, but Byrne's display at full back was not worthy of his great reputation.

In the end the Irishmen retired victorious by one penalty goal and a try (six points) to nothing.

The teams were as follow:—

Ireland—J. Fulton (North of Ireland, back), W. Browne, H. Harman (Dublin University) J. B. Allison (Campbell College, Belfast), I. G. Davidson (North of Ireland) (three-quarter backs), L. M. Magee (Bective Rangers and London Irish), G. G. Allen (Derry and Lancashire County) (half backs), W. G. Byron, J. H. McIlwaine, M. McGown (North of Ireland), H. McCoul (Albion), M. Ryan, J. Ryan (Bective Rangers and Rockwell College), J. Sealy (Dublin University), J. Ahern (Queen's College, Cork) (forwards).

England—J. F. Byrne (Moseley, back), P. Stout (Gloucester), S. Anderson (Rockcliff), J. T. Taylor (Castleford), E. F. Fookes (Sowerby Bridge) (three-quarter backs), E. W. Taylor (Rockcliff), A. Rotherham (Richmond) (half backs), H. W. Dudgeon, F. Jacob, (Richmond), C. Thomas (Barnstaple), J. H. Blacklock (Aspatia), J. Davidson (Aspatia), F. N. Stout (Gloucester), A. J. L. Darby (Cambridge University), J. Shooter (Morley) (forwards).

Oxford University, although lacking the services of several of last term's fifteen decisively beat Coventry at Oxford by two goals and four tries to nothing.

Leicester somewhat easily accounted for Burton by twenty-one points to four. In Scotland a recurrence of the frost compelled the postponement for a second time of the Rugby international match between Scotland and Wales, as also of five of the ties in the second round of the Scottish Association Cup competition.

ASSOCIATION.

Cambridge University defeated the Casuals by five goals to three, and Oxford ran up a score of six goals to one against R. Hilleary's team, but in their match with London they had to submit to a two goals to one defeat after a close and exciting struggle.

In the London Senior Cup, Clapton got the better of the Old Malvernians after a somewhat poor game by four goals to none.

The London Caledonians defeated Ealing by five goals to two, while the Old Carthusians, after having by no means the best of the game, retired victorious from their match with the Casuals by four goals to two.

In the Football League eight matches were played on February 4th with the following results:

Sheffield Wednesday visited Blackburn and suffered defeat by two goals to none. Derby County had all the best of the game with Wolverhampton Wanderers and won by six goals to two. Liverpool and Stoke played at Liverpool on a hard and slippery ground and, to make matters worse, there was a heavy fall of snow. In the end Stoke suffered defeat by one goal to nothing. Notts County and Notts Forest fought out their return match before 16,000 people, and for the second time a pointless draw resulted. Preston North End on their own ground met and defeated Aston Villa by two goals to none, the game being played under most unfavourable conditions, snow falling for a considerable part of the time. Sheffield United, on their own ground, defeated Bury by four goals to one. West Bromwich Albion and Sunderland had a good game at West Bromwich, the Albion retiring victorious by one goal to none.

Aston Villa still head the list with 33 points. Liverpool, who have played two matches more, are second with 31, and Everton, who have played one match less than Liverpool, are third with 29 points.

CYCLING.

ENGLAND.

London, February 3, 1899.

Although the Cyclists' Touring Club has taken up cudgels on behalf of Lady Harberton in her action against the Surrey innkeeper who refused to provide refreshments for the reason that her ladyship was attired in rational costume, it should be distinctly understood that the C.T.C. in moving in the matter, has not been actuated by any feeling of hostility towards the innkeeper, nor by any sympathy with the rational dress movement, but solely with the object of arriving at a settlement of the vexed question whether an innkeeper is at liberty to refuse to supply refreshment to a customer, who, although decorously clothed, is not costumed in the fashion that commends itself to his judgment. The result of the action will be awaited with considerable interest by all sections of the cycling community.

An odd case recently came before a provincial Bench of Magistrates, when a cyclist was summoned for riding on the footway.

He admitted the charge, but stated that he had "asked a policeman" whether he might do so, as the roadway was impracticable for riding owing to its being thickly covered with flint, the jagged edges of which would have been fatal to the tyres of his machine. The kindly officer of the law advised him that under the circumstances he would waive the legal prohibition forthwith, and commiserated with him as to the many harrassing restrictions to which the wheelman is now-a-days subjected. Probably he was a cyclist himself, though this fact did not transpire. The wheelman went on his way rejoicing, only to be stopped by another policeman, further on. The Bench having heard his explanation, and the police inspector having stated the constable had no right to give the permission in question, he was let off with a shilling fine, without costs.

A very useful member of the community is the road-mender. He is the man upon the success of whose labours the wheelman depends for "good going." He is often by the wayside contentedly converting all the big stones into little ones which, later on, with the aid of the traction engine roller, will render the surface smooth and pleasant. Cyclists being a genial race have long recognised that this humble individual has some claim upon their charity, and hence it is that it has become the custom to entertain these hardy sons of toil in their different districts to a feast spread in no niggardly spirit, consisting of the orthodox roast beef, plum pudding, etc., galore. At Berkhamstead recently, local cyclists entertained the men employed on the roads in this manner, and as a parting gift, two ounces of tobacco, a pound of tea, and two pounds of sugar, creature comforts to gladden the heart of the "Missus," were presented to each guest.

The high-gear and low dropped handle-bar craze seems to have a fascination for many cyclists. The following case should, however, prove a warning to the would-be scorcher who pursues his way through crowded thoroughfares, struggling with a gear something over 100in., and riding in an attitude anything but elegant, or natural. At the Lambeth County Court (Surrey) on Friday, January 27, the case of Griffin v. Sellars was tried. The action has been remitted from the High Court and was a claim for damages to the Plaintiff and his bicycle by a collision caused by the alleged negligence of the driver of defendant's omnibus. It was alleged that plaintiff was riding to business at a slow pace when he saw the omnibus coming across on the wrong side of the road. He was compelled to go close into the kerb, and in doing so, touched a foot passenger with his front wheel and skidded, the omnibus collided with him, threw him to the ground, and, as a result, he was incapacitated from business for two weeks. The machine was produced in Court and the judge asked the plaintiff whether he would not have to adopt a stooping attitude to properly ride the machine; the plaintiff answered in the negative, but on being asked to mount, he had to confess that he could not reach the handles without stooping. The gear was stated to be 93in., but was subsequently found to be 105in. After a short deliberation the jury gave a verdict for the defendant, the judge remarking that it was an action which ought never to have been brought.

Notwithstanding the rumours that cricket will displace cycling at the Crystal Palace, it has been definitely decided that the track shall remain intact during the present season. With regard to the utilising of the centre of the track for cricket, arrangements have been made whereby devotees to this bat and ball will be allowed the sole use of the track every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday afternoon. Aspirants to racing honours, however, will be permitted to requisition the track for training purposes when it is not being used for cricket, while holiday race meetings and other events will proceed practically as they did last year.

Is a cyclist entitled to wheel his machine along the highway after sunset without a light? According to a London magistrate, he is not. A dictum of Mr Cluer, sitting at Worship Street, in a recent case not in any way connected with cycling, was, "It is an open question whether a man with a bicycle, if his light is out, may even wheel his machine at a walk with impunity." The defendant in this case was a carter who, having lost his lamp en route, was conscientious enough to get down and lead his horses. The words of the regulation in the Local Government Act of 1888—wherein a cycle is defined to be a carriage—run, "During the period between an hour after sunset and one hour before sunrise every person riding or being upon such carriage shall carry attached to the carriage a lamp, which shall be so constructed and placed as to exhibit a light in the direction in which he is proceeding," &c. How can a cyclist, who is wheeling his machine, be said to be "riding, or being upon" his mount?

The "Lancet" has recently raised the question as to the advisability of allowing children of tender years to cycle. It seems

that no one cares to lay down a hard-and-fast rule as to the age at which children may ride without over-taxing their physical powers. Indeed, it would be impossible to do so, as children even of the same family, differ in a most marked degree in development of mental and physical gifts. Without question, the child who cycles needs both these attributes, and it is truly marvellous to see what remarkably cool heads are often set on quite young shoulders. A familiar sight on the Brighton road, near Croydon, is that of two children, the elder apparently not being over seven years, who ride in the neighbourhood of busses and vans going Croydon-wards, with an easy assurance and nonchalance many an older wheelman might envy.

Tennis Racquets Cricket Bats & Golf Clubs

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Restringing of Tennis Racquets a speciality.

George McHardy, 1735 Ayacucho

JAMES SMART

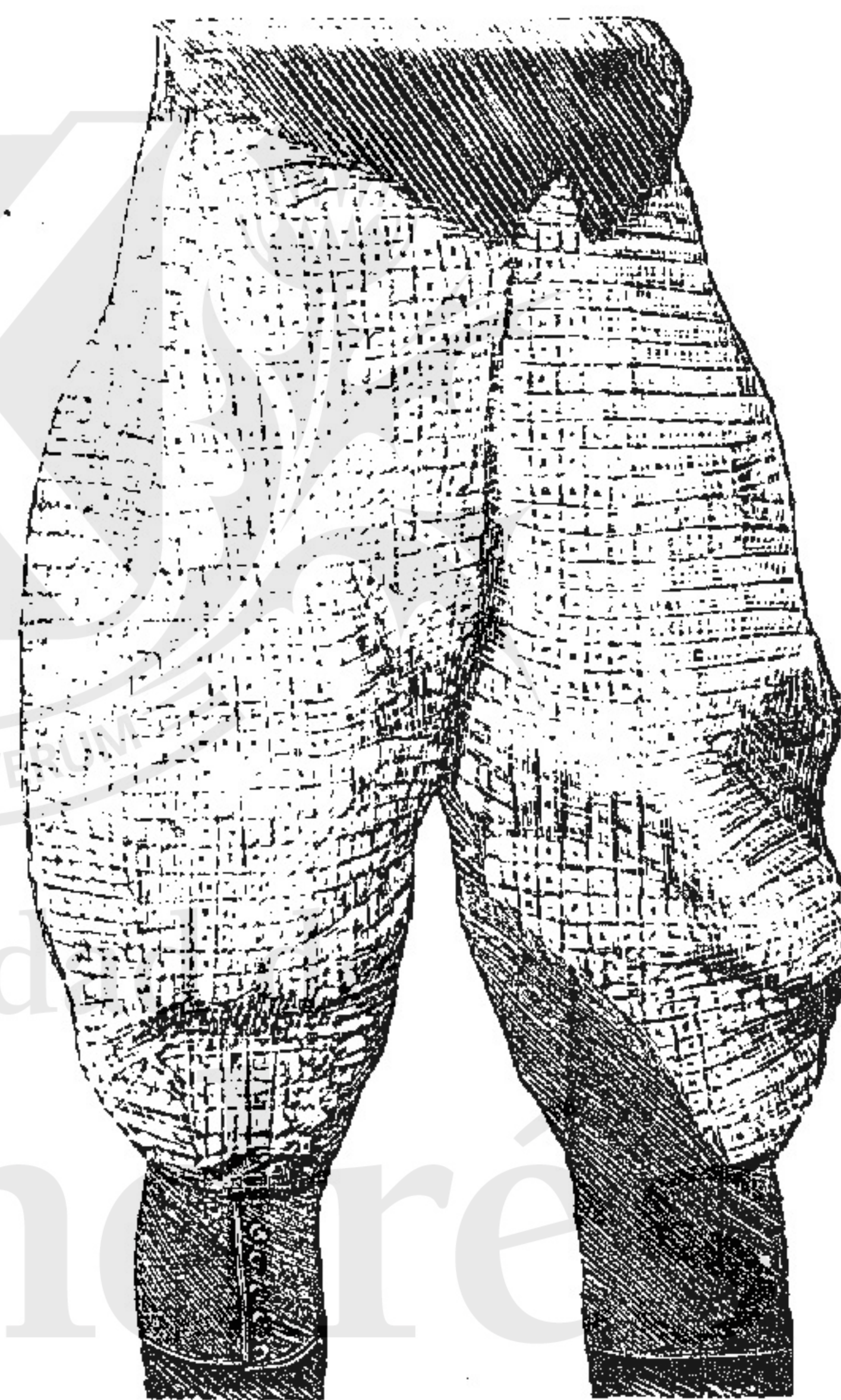
TAILORS

BREECHES

—AND—

HABIT

MAKERS



556 - Calle Piedad - 556

Bs. Aires Western Railway

SUMMER TIME TABLE.

Leave Once for Caballito and Flores.

A.M.: 4.50, 5.45, 6.05, 6.30, 7.30, 8.30, 9.00, 9.30, 10.00, 10.45, 11.40.
P.M.: 12.30, 1.30, 2.30, 3.45, 4.15, 5.00, 5.30, 6.00, 6.30, 7.00, 7.30,
8.15, 9.15, 10.30, 11.30, 12.30.

Leave Flores for Once.

A.M.: 5.19, 5.59, 6.39, 7.19, 7.49, 8.19, 8.49, 9.19, 9.49, 10.19,
10.49, 11.24.
P.M.: 12.04, 12.49, 1.49, 2.49, 3.34, 4.14, 4.44, 5.20, 5.49, 6.34,
7.19, 7.54, 8.39, 9.19, 10.34, 11.19, 11.59.

Leave Caballito for Once.

A.M.: 5.23, 6.03, 6.43, 7.23, 7.53, 8.23, 8.53, 9.23, 9.53, 10.23,
10.53, 11.28.
P.M.: 12.08, 12.53, 1.53, 2.53, 3.38, 4.18, 4.48, 5.53, 6.38, 7.23,
7.58, 8.43, 9.23, 10.38, 11.23, 12.03.

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DANUBE

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To sail on March 31, 1899

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Taking cargo for Bremen and Hamburg

SEVERN

Captain THOMAS R. PEARCE

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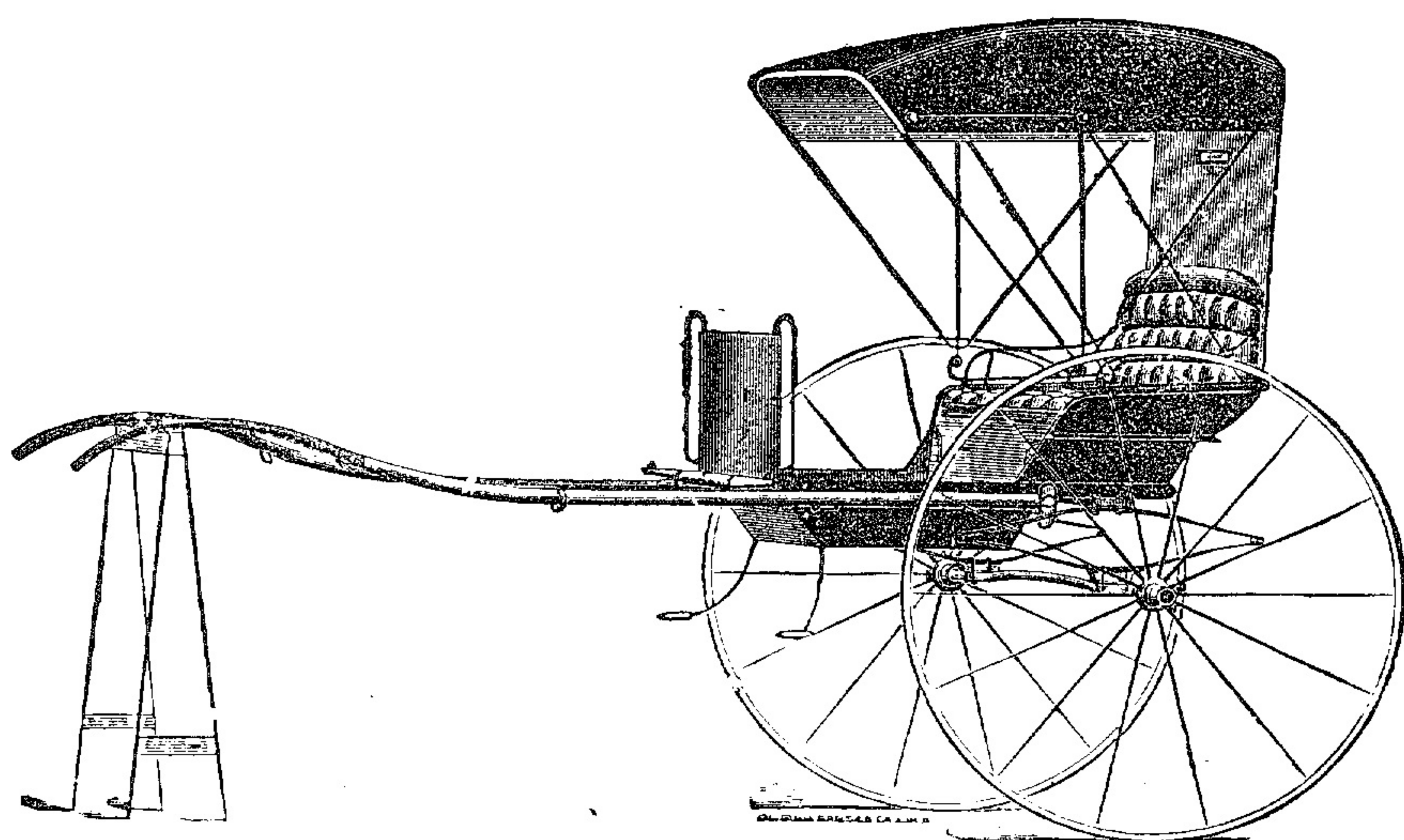
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