

# The Standard

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THE WEEKLY STANDARD.

Independence of B. Ayres.

"The war of independence," as generally understood, was the name of that crusade begun in the British Colonies and propagated through Spanish America with the object of freeing the New World from the yoke of European monarchy.

All nations feel this onward impulse; but some there are, who lend themselves more eagerly to its dictates. In general we can better observe the rapidity of improvement, in infant states, than in old countries.

In comparison with Ireland, it may be said that we are much to English example and importation. But, is not the lesson of active industry open to the imitation of all; and it is well known that Ireland is the right arm of the British Empire.

Some may object that the Republic was already too small, and that, by isolating this city, the head is separated from the members; but in the Low Countries we have the case of a pigmy kingdom, fractioned into halves, both parts of which have prospered by the separation.

Thus it may be hoped that the battle of Pavon and retirement of Urquiza will have the effect of establishing definitively a virtual separation which, without cutting off the provinces from the intercourse of civilized life, leaves Buenos Aires to the full enjoyment of her agricultural resources and good maritime position.

Our modern improvements. The nineteenth century is a synony of advancement, which the present age is apt to glorify as if all the merit was our own.

The finest buildings in town do not belong to them; the Cabildo, Cathedral, University, & most public edifices are the work of the Spaniards; and the best private structures have been raised by foreigners.

he must surmount, without idly looking back like Lot's wife. Instead of bragging about what's done, let them think of what's yet to do, and toiling up the steep ascent, neither pause nor hesitate till they have secured a place in the temple of Fame.

Ship desertion.

We have been requested to complain of the frequent desertions that are recently observable among the sailors of foreign shipping in this port.

In one or two cases, the vessels have been left almost without hands, and grievous risks are hereby involved. Such example, moreover, is contagious and if seamen are taught to believe that this is an El-Dorado, we shall soon see the commerce of the country at a stand-still.

Vessels will lie in the road ready for sea, but without hands; the story of Australia will have a repetition in the Plata; casualties will be the inevitable consequence of ships going to sea short-handed; or else captains will see themselves obliged to accept landmen who are unable to work a ship. Some steps must be taken to check so growing an abuse; and, as it is rumored that several of the deserters have entered the government service, it behoves the authorities to institute strict enquiries.

The Cabildo clock.

The public already begin to feel a great convenience in this most valuable of our "modern improvements." Its want has been so long experienced, that the boon is doubly acceptable. By a strange coincidence it commenced its functions on the day that Buenos Aires gained the victory of Pavon, even before we had received the news.

A word is due in praise of Jaeggli and Diavet who have thus perfected the idea of their observatory, and while it would be idle to reply to the impetuous attacks made upon them by the firm is not from a vain inspiration: The first trials which were broken did not bear their name, and critics at once pronounced the new clock worse than the old, since contrary to custom, no name appeared on it.

As sundry bolos are in circulation we are authorized to state that it is an eight-day clock which goes nine days without winding. At present the illumination is suspended on account of the ventilators not giving ventilation, sufficient for the quantity of gas employed to light it.

On the whole we felicitate the municipality on this acquisition, and feel assured that measures of this kind will not only ensure their popularity, but tend to the improvement of our city in the best manner that our money can serve, or their imagination devise.

Profano invention

In one of our local journals it was recently stated that Count Cavour was reconciled to the Catholic Church and that the confessor who attended his dying moments was dissuaded by the Pope and required to disclose the penitent's confession.

This story is equally false and ridiculous, for every Christian of whatever creed, is well aware that the

seal of the confessional can never be broken. Plus the Ninth would indeed be "the man of sin," and Romanism a gross imposture if he attempted to violate the secrets of a death bed confession. Neither torture nor martyrdom absolves the obligation of secrecy; and, among many like cases, we may cite John Nepomucen who was flung into the Vistula by the king of Poland for not repeating the confession of the Queen; also Gardiner the English priest, hanged at Tyburn for not revealing the demonic plot of Guy Fawkes.

Again we say neither the Pope nor the Virgin Mary; nothing short of the Godhead can demand the revelation of the confessional; and who discloses its secrets is a monster of iniquity condemned to death by canon law.

The Argentine Republic.

Many are of opinion that the war is not yet over; and the truth of this idea would gain ground from the fact that such is the belief of both belligerent parties. The Confederation alleges that so far from being prostrated by the battle of Pavon, it was for them a glorious victory. They claim a host of prisoners, equipments and baggage, with all the honors of the day; representing Mitro's army as overthrown, and bestowing high-sounding titles on Saá and Vinasoro. The President as if cheating himself into the flattering illusion, has even appointed authorities to our rural districts, coming as close as Moreno. He has named Laprida commander of our National Guards, and acted in every particular, as he should be expected to have done, were Mitro flying before his troops, and Urquiza encamped at Puente de Marquez.

It is contrary to Urquiza's custom to retire from the field of battle; it is contrary to common sense to suppose that he did so after gaining the victory.

We must therefore conclude that his return to Entrerios was caused by disgust, or by the desire to look out for himself and his properties. This, in our opinion, enough to prove that the war is virtually ended. Who can supply the place of the Captain general, or who, will be able to restore a cause by him judged desperate? The Confederation is now powerless to attack, or to continue offensive operations. Mitro, on the other hand, may close the campaign, since the principles he has invoked are simply those of self-defence; and an invasion into the territory of an enemy, even demoralised, must risk the laurels he has already gained.

The English and French Ministers had an interview with Mitro at San Nicolas; and it may be supposed that the President was not averse to their mission, but, letters state that the former demanded an unconditional surrender. Meantime Urquiza's army is following his example, and in a few months, so far from receiving reinforcements, their last remnants will be crossing the desert to their homes.

If the war does not progress actively by land, our operations by water have not yet found a place in

the history of the campaign. The two squadrons are still looking at each other, waiting, it would seem, the declaration of peace. A rumor was general last week that Cordoba had been shot for treachery, in endeavoring to seduce two of Urquiza's ships. It was likewise said that Gen. Francia was among the slain, but this is probably a set-off to the report, in Rosario, of the deaths of Col. Mitre, Flores and others.

The revolution of Santiago affords a point d'appui for the enemies of the President to menace his power. Governor Gallo has written a spirited manifesto eating on the provincials to take up arms against a horde of brigands, and if Salta and Tucuman make a like pronouncement, Derqui is on his last legs. The Captain-General is said to entertain a wish to separate from bad company, and therefore purposes detaching Entre-Rios and Corrientes from the Republic, to unite them with the Banda Oriental. It is true that he promised Derqui, to collect reinforcements on his return to San Jose, but even if he had not already taken Entre-Rios every available man, he is more than apt to keep his troops for his own protection.

Rosario is in danger of being sacked by the swarms of deserters, who are ever the great plague of both armies, and we are told that the inhabitants begged of Mitro to occupy it temporarily. On this side of the Arroyo Medio, things are more settled; but, bands of freebooters are still at large, as we observe by the robbery of Mitro's courier, and the guerrilla feats of Mr. Archy Craig, a Scotch resident who has taken 70 prisoners. Many poor families in the camp probably owe their safety to this gentleman, who had the precaution to disarm the fugitives. Our wool-growing brethren have escaped more providentially than we had reason to hope; and the plunder was stopped almost when commencing.

The cannon and prisoners sent here by Mitro verify the truth of his report. Already 20 pieces of cannon and 900 prisoners are added to the officers and banners in our keeping. The officers are in the Entre-Rios, and receive 20 dollars for their support; the soldiers are also well treated in the barracks Plaza Mayo; and inspire pity for their miserable appearance.

Scarcely better off than Indians, plunder with them is more the effect of necessity than avarice, and we can well understand that they will be glad to accept the comforts of our troops, on being incorporated into the Porteno ranks. Mitro has passed 400 rank and file into his army, and we hope for the honor of his arms that these were volunteers. Letters from head-quarters state that 3,000 cavalry were now assembled, and that a strong corps of arance had been despatched for some manoeuvre not yet apparent. Our government has wisely resolved to station forces in the country villages. The "Garribaldi Legion" has been marched to the Villa Mercedes. From Guardia del Monte we hear of some disorders, and the assassination of Colonel Villa an active and esteemed officer; but, as the official prints make no mention, we do not guarantee its truth. The "National" alludes to a movement in San Antonio de Arce to proclaim the Federal cause, and subsequently, in part, retreats the statement. In the south, tranquillity prevails we hear nothing of Indian incursions.

Our Chambers have submitted to a military commission the project of presenting a medal to the heroes of Pavon, with the inscription "Batalla of Pavon, Sept. 17, 1851: fought with glory for the liberty of the Argentine Republic." It will be of gold for the commanders, silver for officers, and copper for private soldiers.

The departure of Obligado for San Nicolas gave strength to the reports of a negotiation, and we are still confident of an arrangement. The "Dolientes" also brought back to headquarters Dr. J. M. Gutierrez who on the occasion of conveying the cap-

tured banners, was promoted to the grade of Lieut. Colonel. This young man has made rapid strides in state affairs, and is withal highly popular; a proof that his capacities have won for him rewards, that are otherwise generally, attended with envy.

The detailed narrative of the battle was published on Monday, but its periphrastic style is much inferior in interest to the laconic despatch of Mitro, which we described in our last.

Banda Oriental.

In Montevideo the Federal party has always had numerous partisans, and some expressed great satisfaction at the first account of the battle, which gave Urquiza a decided triumph; but they were quickly undeceived, and a part of the press congratulated Buenos Aires on the result. There is a story that one Leandro Gomez presented a bill for 1500 quibrons on Cabral in favor of the Captain-General. It is true that he promised Derqui, to collect reinforcements on his return to San Jose, but even if he had not already taken Entre-Rios every available man, he is more than apt to keep his troops for his own protection.

News from Europe.

By the Southampton, arrived yesterday morning, we have accounts of the old world up to the end of August.

In England the talk was about the Queen's visit to Ireland, where her Majesty was cordially received by all classes and became the guest of H. Earl Fitzlyffe at Dublin, thence proceeding to witness a grand review on the Curragh of Kildare, (Aug. 2). H. M. is accompanied by Prince Alfred, who has just returned from his American tour, and the Prince of Wales, who is to be married within a few months to Princess Darmstadt. The royal speech on closing Parliament, dealt out on the 10th inst. of the U. States, flattered the state of India, thanked the patriotic volunteers, and praised the general utility of the people. The English harvest promises a better return than the French. Mr. Hindin has been challenged by a lady, who crossed the Thames on a tight-rope. Miss Katherine Hayes, the Irish nightingale, is deaf by many who was esteemed second only to Jenny Lind, and her rendering of Moore's Melodies melted Irishmen, and even foreigners, to tears. The intended exhibition has received the contribution of several works of art from the royal galleries, by order of the Queen.

The late Napoleon (Aug. 16th) was more than usually magnificent at Paris; these were of half-a-million of people assembled in the Champ de Mars to witness the fireworks. It may be well to observe en passant, that this is the festival of Saint-Napoleon, a Corsican martyr, from a Milan boat-part took his name, rendering him more famous for ambition, than it had been for sanctity. This saint is not the emperor. Some days previous the king of Sweden, was received by his Imperial majesty, and treated to a review of 60,000 men. Prince Murat resigned his post as head of the Maritime Order. Prince Napoleon and his consort arrived at New York, without any public demonstration. The population of Paris is ascertained to be 13 millions. The National rifle competition at Vincennes has displayed the superiority of the Belgians. The Emperor pardoned 1300 prisoners on the Napoleon anniversary.

In Italy, the national loan was well taken up; but disturbances are multiplied; Chiodini quarrelled with the Ministers; the Archbishop of Naples was banished; Sardulia and Switzerland could not arrange the Ticino question. At Rome, the collection of Peterpence report was published for the past year it amounted to 320,000 of which Austria gave 40,000, Ireland 47,000, and Italy 48,000. There is no sign of a French withdrawal, and the Pope has recovered. Monsieur Ohigi is named Nuncio at Paris; subscriptions for



