

# The Standard

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## The Standard.

"All I have written will tell you and nothing more."—Cicero.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 1891.

### CAMP STATISTICS.

#### MARRIAGES.

The number of marriages in the camp is little over that in town, and the mortality is also nearly even. But we have positive proof that the population in the camp is double that of the capital, in the ratio of births, which is the truest indication. Dolores stands first on the list (182), next Chilivoy (170), then San Nicolas (139), Barracas South (132), and Villa Mercedes (116). The lowest on the list are Bahia Blanca and San Justo. The proportion of colored people is 9 per cent, and these are more numerous in Chilivoy, forming one-fourth of that return, in Arceles one-third, in Bahia Blanca one-half. In twenty districts no colored people appear, although they are to be found in every part of the camp.

We have seen that youthful marriages are fashionable in town, being as one-half, but in the camp under 25 years is still larger in the camp, being as three in five. But whereas only 20 citizens contract matrimony over 45 years, the number in the camp is 74. The proportions of native and foreign marriages seem inequitable, being set down as native 73 p. 100, foreign 12 p. 100, and mixed 15 p. 100. Of 161 mixed marriages only one case is shown of a native husband and foreign wife. Consequently, of all foreigners married one-half have taken native wives. Twenty Englishmen were married, of whom 12 to their own countrywomen, six to natives (probably Irish children), one to a Swiss and another to a Frenchwoman. The Spaniards and French form each one-third of the foreign list, and the former two-thirds have married natives, of the latter only one-third, but of 94 Italians one-half. This shows the relative sympathy of blood very strikingly.

Under the head of professions, we find one half classified as farm-servants (probably including small farmers), and 27 are artisans. The falling off of marriages in the camp is very notable and cannot be attributed to a decrease of population, but to the want of clerical vigils, and difficulty in procuring religious service. In 1891 there were 1970 which declined to nearly one-half (1160) in 1891.

#### BIRTHS.

The births for 1892, according to church reports, were 10,619, being in the ratio of 1 to 1 with marriages, and 6 to 1 in the city; and 12 to 6 in the district against 11 to 9 in the city. This is a splendid return, and if we add to it the large number of children not baptized, we shall see that the camp is increasing rapidly; for whereas the city only gave 3 per cent, the former may be safely set down at 5 p. 100. San Andres de Gilez there are 100 of births over deaths of 3 p. 100 of the population stand in the municipal returns. Capilla del Señor set increase 4 p. 100, Barracas 2 p. 100, Rojas 2 p. 100, San Antonio de Arco 3 p. 100, Ensenada 4 p. 100, Bahia Blanca 4 p. 100. Add to this, immigration, and we may judge how quickly the camp is getting populated.

The ratio of legitimate and natural children is the same as that of the native portion of the city—two to one. In Tandil, Chilivoy, and other remote districts only one-half are legitimate; this again proves rather the want of religious and instruction to immoral mode of living. In Belgrano, San Isidro, and San Fernando only one-half appear as legitimate. Dolores and San Nicolas give about one-third, but the districts of Capilla Senor and San A. de Arco only show 13 and 18 p. 100 respectively, as Irishmen here predominate, and moral Barracas (South) falls as low as 8 p. 100.

The children of natives are set down as nine-tenths, foreigners and mixed one-tenth. Of the first 90 per cent are illegitimate, while the second class only count a total of 20 cents, or less than 2 per cent. The ratio of sexes is: natives, legitimate—males 57, females 43; do, illegitimate, males 48, females 52. Foreigners, legitimate—males 63, females 37; illegitimate—males 52, females 47. Here we have three plain deductions, first that the natives are known among foreigners, secondly that the number of male children outbalances females, and to a surprising degree among natives (legitimate), but the very contrary happens with illegitimate

children. In 1891, when marriages were nearly double the return for 1892, the number of births was 15 per cent less than the year before us.

(To be continued.)

### DANGEROUS ACCUSATIONS.

In the heat of party discussion, people often lose their temper and say things which they afterwards regret as much from their good nature as from a feeling that they have made fools of themselves. We can make allowance for the irresolution of the Cretans after crushing a defeat, and almost sympathize with our "abject friend" for the terrible blow he has sustained through his letter's impudence, and failure. But the recent disgraceful attack on the French editor shows that H. F. V. has not improved his manners among the celebrities of Paris, or black legs of Balkan-Baden; may the proverb be verified "la bula y vultu potius."

In endorsing the assertion that M. St. Guilly is an "escaped felon," our colleague forgets how easily an honest man may be calumniated, and how unjust it is to force anyone to fight at law or pistols for the preservation of his own property and reputation. Perhaps he has been so often the victim of dangerous and false assertions as the Editor of the "Tribuna," and he ought to have learned prudence.

When it was said that an Austrian officer kicked him out of a Parisian coffee-house, we treated it as a *canard*.

When some invective person spoke of a piece of editorial jobbery for \$27,000, we set it down as indecent and absurd.

When the story ran, of a 50,000 ex-convict from a family to permit their returning to Buenos Ayres unopposed, we naturally ascribed it to the malevolent rancor of political slanderers.

When the "National" attacked his private character, we had no epithets sufficiently strong to condemn such abuses.

When instantiations were levelled against him, in a kick head, for not going to Paven, the "Standard" joined not in the cry.

When dragged before a police-office in Paris about the forged Ottomani Bonds, Hector F. Varela found no staunch advocate of his innocence than the very paper which he had once said was unworthy to be tolerated in Buenos Ayres.

In regard to the last charge we may state that some jealous enemies put the worst coloring on the affair, and other persons feel kindly to our paper, and to our office to thank us for our magnanimity in standing up to clear the character of our traditional opponent.

There were perhaps none who knew Hector Varela and believed any of these accusations, but there were many who, for some old grudge, affected to believe them, and said "poor fellow I am very sorry for the exposure!" Alas, we never pursued so treacherous a line of action, and our opinion in private, as well as our public expression, was, that the whole was a slander, and we labored the present charge against M. St. Guilly to be.

The "National" once charged itself with stealing cables, but as there was no color in the indictment, we did not require the "Tribuna" to defend us. It was difficult with Sr. Varela, for, although he wishes his reputation "as clear as that of Cesar's wife," the fact of a police examination called for the efforts of his friends or colleagues to defend his integrity.

We beg, therefore, to remind the "Tribuna" editor that these charges are unworthy of a gentleman, and a dishonor to the press. Much as our opponents may complain of our free speech, no man can point to a number of the "Standard," in which his character has been maligned, but many (and of the number H.F.V.) will find his honor protected from calumny.

### LATEST FROM SAN NICOLAS.

The Paven arrived yesterday morning with a number of sheep-farmers, who has been looking for land in that locality. The owners of lands up there, however, ask the most exorbitant rents. Four thousand sheep have passed the Ramallo, on the way out towards the Paven. The camps near San Nicolas are now in pretty good condition and much superior to those of Paven.

Land cannot be got, as many people imagine, for a mere song on the contrary, rents paid are almost on a par with the dearest in the more central partidos, and the camps for the most part abound in hard grass and "miquiu."

The arroyos Tala and Banayo are impassable, owing to the heavy rains. Many farmers who moved their flocks up there, a few months ago, are now returning to their old places.

A great deal of robbery is going on in this partido, and some fellows are prowling about in the night-time stealing sheep out of the corral.

The branch of the Provincial Bank is doing a limited business—all but powers and few depositors. Any person requiring so large a sum as \$2000 must give three or four days previous notice, in order to get the money from Buenos Ayres.

Don Segundo Garcia, who is the justice of the peace for the partido of San Nicolas, is a very active good man, and greatly liked. He is indefatigable in his exertions to put a stop to the killing of "agrio" cattle, and stealing sheep. He returned from the frontier post of the partido on Tuesday, and states that near Pergamini the greater part of the camp has been completely burned by spontaneous combustion. Owing to his exertions, the fire was held within limits, and ultimately extinguished. Farmers who have driven their flocks out towards Pergamini complain of serious losses from "miquiu."

In the town of San Nicolas there is nothing much talked of save politics. Two merchants from Buenos Ayres have been up there purchasing wheat, one bought 18,000 fanegas, and the other 70,00, but business is very dull. The only exception in the last week is to be seen about. The buyers are very poor, the camps having suffered greatly from the sea.

Mr. Luis Booth, an American gentleman, who has a splendid estate in the Rincon de Banayo states that the camps between San Nicolas and Rosario are in miserable condition, his having come through them on last Monday.

There is a large estancia of about five leagues of land facing on the Arroyo Mella for sale the price asked is one hundred and twenty thousand pesos per league, but owing to the number of chaceros and squatters on the land no one wishes to buy it, although the land is cheap.

From San Nicolas to San Pedro there is not an inch of land to be got, at anything like a proper figure. Small strips such as a few hundred yards by a league and a half in depth can be bought, but as these strips are so narrow they are almost worthless.

### IMPORTANT FROM SAN JUAN.

M. Moreno arrived in Buenos Ayres from San Juan yesterday. He states that Mr. Rickard had been to Tontal, the furnaces are finished, and all the machinery, which arrived out safely, had been at last put up. Mrs. Rickard and Mr. Huntley were stopping in San Juan, but Mr. Rickard was indefatigable in his efforts to get the machinery in working order.

It was feared that the San Juan Mining Company would experience a difficulty in finding quartz or metal sufficient to keep their going. A new company had commenced working in Tontal, the machinery having been imported from Chile.

The two Messrs. Dillons, from Dublin, who are intimately acquainted with the family of Mr. Rickard, and who left this city about a month since, for San Juan, were, when last seen, beyond the Rio Quezto.

According to the extreme risk of the Indians, Sr. Varela gives it as his opinion that the silver cannot be sent to Buenos Ayres at present, but must go to Chile, it being cheaper, more expeditious, and less dangerous.

The stockholders in San Juan, so far from complaining at the bill of expenses sent him by Mr. Rickard, as was represented in Buenos Ayres, are quite contented, and well pleased at the machinery. Governor Sarmento, it was said, had accepted the mission to the States, often, I hear, by the President. Several Englishmen were arriving from Chile and other parts, in San Juan, and the political state of the States, often, I hear, by the President. Several Englishmen were arriving from Chile and other parts, in San Juan, and the political state of the States, often, I hear, by the President.

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### THE 10th CENTURY IN B. Ayres.

It is not often that we find instances of condemned criminals, who may have had the good fortune to escape the hands of the executioner, coming forward to try to explain away any little slurs that may happen to be attached to their names. But we have an example of this desire to stand well with the world, in a Mr. Francisco de Alzaga, who, feeling himself aggrieved by an article in one of our native papers, has boldly cast himself into print, and attempted to prove himself an ill-used character, and a Bayard, if not sans peur, at all events sans reproche.

He says that it is true that he lost his rights of citizenship, but that for 20 years he has been occupying most

important places in Corrientes, and he flatters himself that he gave universal satisfaction; that Government gave him leave to return from foreign parts, and expelled instructors to the authorities, both military and civil, to treat him with the greatest respect, as one of the most honorable citizens. Even his enemies, if he had any, all admitted that his conduct was most irreproachable.

His poor tender feelings have been hurt by the assertion of the anonymous correspondent, that he is disliked and despised by his own family. Now, that is false; for if ever a man was an idol to his own relations, that man is Alzaga, the murderer. When Blac heard also a great favorite with the neighboring families, who had doubtless only met him a few times and is somewhat of a bore to have the lips and feet of ruffians employed in vilifying his fair name.

Lastly, any man who accuses Alzaga of want of proper veneration for the great virtue, friendship, is a liar; for his victim was no friend of his. He had only met him a few times and knew him slightly, and no one can mention an instance of his having been false to his friends.

### EDITOR'S TABLE.

The ceremony of turning the first sod of the Great Southern railway is to take place in the first week of March. The preparations are on a grand scale and the affair will be worthy of the greatness of the enterprise and the world-wide interest of the contractors Messrs. Peto & Betts.

The spirit of improvement is now making considerable strides southwards, in town and country, with the prospect of the railway to Chascomus. The Huero de los Sauces, a deserted common of former years, has been converted into an orchard of the Plaza Constitucion, under the title 20th November. This is a great place for dates, but we don't exactly remember what anniversary is the present.

The new plaza will be a center of life and commerce, being near the terminus. We are every day besieged by numbers of persons seeking employment on the Great Southern railway works, and always refer them to Mr. Crawford 76 Calle Lima; that gentleman feared a dearth of labor, but we anticipate a plethora.

The latest news of Flores, is that he was rumored to be near Payandú; his niece came down yesterday from San Juan via Rosario, per Paven. She travelled alone in a proof of the quietude of the interior.

The Pavana has risen ten feet of late, but the R. Platte has fallen so much that the passenger per Paven were yesterday landed in carts, one of which narrowly escaped capsizing. The Paven was delayed three hours by the fog on Friday night.

To-night the Italian opera of Ballo in Maschera will be given in Colon. When we say that it is perhaps equal to Norma, our readers will confess that seldom has an opera been so well got up as in B. Ayres.

Nothing can depict the hardship which many of our countrymen have had to endure during the last few months in more than a few words. During the recent severe rains, the living out in the camp hoveless with their flocks. We have seen several who state that for the last two months they have slept under a roof of mud, and the cold has been very severe. During the recent severe rains, the living out in the camp hoveless with their flocks. We have seen several who state that for the last two months they have slept under a roof of mud, and the cold has been very severe.

Sr. Alvarez has recently made a splendid purchase of several square leagues of land between San Nicolas and Rosario. The average price he paid was one Bolivian dollar per yard, with a depth of a league and a half. He is now looking this land with fine modern sheep.

We have received news from the Baradero: a fellow known as Rosa from the Capilla who was hired in an Irishman to look after his "camp," stealing over 500 dollars worth of things. It has rained in torrents, the camps are good, and Martin Guzman is said to have won at the elections.

The majority of the sheepfarmers who have migrated with their flocks, are now, thank God, returning homewards. The statements in the native papers, respecting the loss of sheep, are greatly exaggerated. Our countrymen took the proper measures in time, and consequently, although at considerable expense, succeeded in saving their sheep from dying of starvation.

The heaviest losses are the native estanciaeros, who have preferred to remain at home and let their sheep starve, rather than the trouble of driving them on to a good camp.

### THE 'PROGRES' MANIFESTO.

#### TO FOREIGN RESIDENTS.

Since last Monday the 'Progres' has been the object of most virulent attacks, on the part of the 'Tribuna' and 'National.'

It is not a polemic discussion, or renouance more or less acrimonious, but vulgar contumely in all its naked deformity: perverse defamation, foul and venomous libel. We belong to the civilized world of letters, and cannot follow the 19th so familiarly trodden by our clatterers. The public has never seen us maintain the dignity of our mission, and would blush for us if we descended to the depths of social depravity. Meantime, it will surprise no one that our adversaries continue their dirty work: such is their natural habit, condition, and taste. Unable to try a question on its proper ground, they roll in the mire in order to besmeer their betters.

They are enraged that the 'Progres', from time to time, calls them to or exerts therefore try a method to get others to do what they themselves dare not attempt. The whole town of Buenos Ayres is solicited to attack our office and throw the types into the street. This is Indian fashion: for it is necessary to get rid of unmanly fellows who insist on fair play. Who desires the end, desires also the means: the 'National', although boiling over with hatred to foreigners, begs of us to turn upon us: the 'Tribuna' calls this sublime, and joins in the chorus. These base manoeuvres are practised in daylight before the public, in spite of the precepts of common decency. Sensible folks are disgusted at the baseness of such public prints, seeing the clank that is used, and the ultimate object in view.

A newspaper has usually 1, 2, or 3 editions. Whenever an article trends on any one's corns (as soldiers are dear, and no paper can keep a body-guard), the editor answers individually, or if two to two persons, or four to four, but never one to a hundred. The 'Tribuna' and 'National' have other tactics, but that is not strange; taste differs.

We are three on the 'Progres' staff, and when we took up the pen, it was not without being prepared for contumacious, and resolved never to falter in our duty and calling. Let our adversaries then give up the idea of raising mobs, which is contrary to the school of modern civilization to which we all belong. Or do they wish us to let ourselves follow and engage in a pitiful battle? If so, they are losing time; we should err in our mission if we raised a strife between natives and foreigners. Our programme is of very contrary, and must be adhered to. But let them not be deceived, by supposing that our number three will suffer us to brook an insult. At the critical time we shall be found at our posts, without baton or dagger, inclined to peace, but accepting, for challenge, the calmness of an upright and contented conscience. As for bullying us, it is out of the question and we advise our adversaries to try another course of action.

Furthermore, we flatly deny that we have insulted the people of Buenos Ayres. We did not begin to write to-day, and we challenge any one to utter an act or sentence of ours not calculated for the public good. Ignorance or malice, coupled with wilful misstatements, may make us appear as disturbers; but a paper's antecedents are of some weight, and it would be strange if we departed from our principle and policy at the very time when the party upheld by us has just gained a signal triumph.

Such an accusation must provoke a smile, were it not made to screen sinister intentions. It is still more absurd, as we are known to, and honored with the friendship and regard of, several leaders of the better position. Three years ago the author of the thesaurus came from a remote corner of the Republic, braving a thousand dangers, to bring to this very city (which he is now accused of insulting) the sympathy of three provinces which invoked it to crush the rule of barbarism. To this day, he holds the same position, peaceful and peace of mind. Soon afterwards he took up the pen against the most formidable writer in these countries, where his beloved province from calumny, and the public knows with what success. The 'Tribuna' of that day would stand against the insult of the 'Tribuna' of to-day.

The editors of 'Le Progres', seeing the evils of any dispute between natives, confess that they should view with regret the demolition of that temple of concord which they themselves labour to erect with their utmost energies. But if any individual requires personal explanation, they accept fully the responsibility of their writings, and will indicate them wherever may be desired.

They decline making it an international question, and invoke public contempt on the heads of those bores of discord who have not the courage to fight their own battles. That such editors forward to undergo all the risk.

All further exploitation in our columns is declared, and we beg our colleagues the 'Standard', 'Nacion', 'Argentina', and 'Pueblo' to translate this for their readers.

J. B. GAITHER.  
LEONAR CROOKST.  
S. ST. GUILLY.

### LATEST FROM ROSARIO.

The foreign merchants are busy with a second de Bloete. The bankrupt was a shopkeeper, and his failure is represented as fraudulent, he having purchased largely a few days before he closed. Nothing could be more original than his style of book-keeping. His debtors have, as a surmise, but are known by their appearance and calling; for instance, the pretty wife of the blanco tropico appears owing a very large sum. The Chief of Police has been on the look out for this interesting young lady, but, as a matter of course, all females arrested had either dusky looking husbands, or were themselves less attractive than what the entry in the defaulting merchant's book would seem to indicate. The bankrupt, on the leaving of the steamer, was in town. The "on dit" at the Commercial Hotel was that if the fellow did not manage to pay a dividend he would be whipped round the Plaza three times, and afterwards have his head put in the stocks.

Rosario is rather gay at present, owing to the number of foreigners who have gone up there for the purpose of buying or renting land very cheap. Sr. Oroño has accepted the post of Governor, pro tem, and the Government of Santa Fe has, in answer to Minister Rawson's circular, made the National Government a present of the subsidy.

The 'Ferro-carril', which is the legitimate organ of the provinces, is taking great interest in the subject of sheep and sheep-farmers. We are happy to see our riverine colleague so interested in the material and industrial development of the province.

The masked balls passed off well, and without the slightest "controversy." A talented Portino, who dressed himself up as a fashionable idiot, caused a deal of sport, having completely fascinated and deluded a well-known Conchal, to the no small amusement of a few knowing ones. Last night another ball was given at the Café, the merchants' subscription to delay all expenses.

The Cock-tail Club has died a premature death, owing to the great dearth of gin.

The saladero which formerly belonged to Urquiza will shortly commence working. Mr. Patrick Brown, we believe, is the saladero working it. The saladero of Zuleika will also shortly commence working, as cattle is at present in very good condition, and not dear.

The dispute between the Customs-house collector and the merchants still continues, but it will be decided by the federal judge, Sr. Zaviria. It was rumored in Rosario that an acceptance of Sr. Darns the collector, for 700 Hal Dollars was protested for non-payment.

The British barque which was aground above Rosario is still aground, but it is thought will be got off.

The Paven in her last trip upwards beat the Paraguay steamer by eight hours.

### TO CORRESPONDENTS.

'Sportacus'—The Constitution can be seen in Downing-street on Tuesdays and Fridays by an order to be obtained at a personal interview with Earl Russell. But if on any other day you lie down on the pavement before the Government offices and look in at the kitchen windows, you can see the machinery at work.

—Jane Susan Vane, (Birmingham)—You wish to get your boy into the Royal Navy? We do not think you will, for his photograph, which you enclose, represents the ugliest little wretch we ever beheld, and he would frighten the horse murens. As his mother you may think these remarks irrelevant, but it is not unbecomingly labour to do to erect with their utmost energies. But if any individual requires personal explanation, they accept fully the responsibility of their writings, and will indicate them wherever may be desired.



