

The Standard

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SUBSCRIPTION TO THE STANDARD

\$39 PER MONTH.

ADVERTISEMENTS,
Net exceeding six lines inserted three
times for \$5.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice can be taken of anonymous
communications. Whatever is intended
for insertion must be authenticated
by the name and address of the writer,
not necessarily for publication, but
as a guarantee of good faith.

The Standard.

"M' fuis au commencement de mon pèlerinage,
décrit." — Cicero.

SATURDAY, March 12, 1861.

FRENCH PACKET REVIEW

The principal feature of importance since the sailing of the English mail has been the inauguration of the Buenos Ayres Great Southern Railway, a full account of which has been published in this week's "Standard." Second in importance to this great industrial festival has been the nomination of Dr. Gonzales, by the President, to the post of National Finance Minister; M. Gonzales is a young man of excellent standing and acknowledged abilities, but lacking the experience and reputation of Sr. Ricci; he however assumes office unhampered by political compromise, and unbiased by a spirit of localism. We trust he will realize all the hopes entertained of him, and reconstruct our dilapidated treasury department. During the last fortnight our paper currency has suffered a most alarming depreciation, and gold has reached an almost unprecedented high figure. This unpleasant state of our money market is attributed by many to the great political excitement at present existing in Buenos Ayres, the immediate cause of which is the election of members for Congress and the Provincial Legislature, the former has passed off resulting in a signal triumph for the National Government, the latter will take place at the end of this month, and it is to be hoped with a like result.

We are happy to inform our friends that there is every probability that the St. Patrick's dinner this year will be as successful as the last. Invitations were sent round yesterday to our friends sympathetic in the cause. Parties desirous of attending, and not having received a printed invitation, will please call or send to the Standard office, where they can be supplied.

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The officer who fired at Mr. Roever's nephew in the street last August has we are glad to say been convicted; as he has already suffered over seven months' incarceration he is to be liberated with a fine and reprimand.

Persons desirous of purchasing revolvers, &c., cheap, should not fail to attend the auction of M. Berthonnet's effects. Mr. Billinghurst is selling off the whole stock with the greatest un-

reserve.

The inauguration ceremony of the Great Southern Railway is beginning to show its effects; nine lots of prime land near the Lomas de Zamora were sold the other day at reserved price (we hear that the figure was what would have been exorbitant a few months ago).

It is rumoured that the Finance Minister, Sr. Gonzalez, is about to remove Sr. Casor from the administration of customs in Rosario, and appoint a less objectionable person to the post. We sincerely hope that the rumour may prove correct, as the present officer is greatly disliked by the foreign merchants.

Young men anxious to go to the camp, at good wages to care sheep, where after a few years they will receive an interest in a flock, can find immediate employment by calling at the office of this paper.

The new House of Congress is fast approaching completion, and we believe will be ready for the May session; the vestibule which it may be recollect last year fell in has been reconstructed, and is adorned by beautiful massive iron gates.

The National Government we understand has refused to entertain the seven steamboat company, which proposes to import seven large river steamers, to run between Buenos Ayres, Montevideo, Rosario, and other river ports; but, we are informed that the National Government declined to entertain the proposal.

The rain, which was so much wanted, has at last come, and the country districts are beginning to wear their wonted verdure. Our fellow-countrymen, who had been obliged to leave for the frontier, are now returning to their homes, having suffered innumerable hardships. The loss of sheep, however, caused by the drought, is by no means as great as that stated by our Spanish colleagues. The heaviest losses have been felt by the native estancieros, whose cattle have either died from starvation, or wandered to the frontier lands never to return.

The revolution still continues in the Banda Oriental. Flores keeps running backwards and forwards; now before Montevideo, now on the frontier. Foreigners in Buenos Ayres have

ceased to take any interest in the followings movements, as it is generally believed that the revolution will last as long as there is a cow or a horse in the country.

In Buenos Ayres business is rather dull. Owing to the very high price of species, and the lateness of the season, the exporters have been shipping pretty heavily, principally for Belgium, the freights having been favourable for shippers. The National Government is at present making arrangements with the Bank Mana for the opening of a large credit. We cannot withhold from remarking the extreme liberality and willingness with which this popular bank always assists the Governments in these countries.

Respecting emigration, we have to remark that there is a great demand for labourers, both in the city, country, and provinces, at very remunerative wages. Clerks, and shopkeepers' assistants should not think of coming out here, as it is next to impossible for them to find any situations in the city.

The Buenos Ayres Northern Railway is doing a splendid business, and it is to be expected that the line will be extended to the mouth of the *capitán*, which will secure to it all the river trade.

The Western Railway, which belongs to the Government, will shortly be opened to the town of Luxan, which will be a great convenience for the sheep-farmers.

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We are glad to learn that the earth works of the G. Southern Railway progress rapidly and will be finished to Lomas de Zamora by the end of next month. This looks like the first section being soon open to traffic.

The Salto arrived yesterday from the port of her name, with 76 passengers, and bringing intelligence that Flores had presented himself, in the suburbs without army or escort, counting on the sympathies of the inhabitants.

THE LONDON & RIVER PLATE BANK IN MONTEVIDEO.

In order that our readers may fully understand the great and much talked of dispute between Mr. Ruding and the Oriental Government, we translate and publish the following document. We regret sincerely that the Government dealt so harshly with a young institution, calculated, under proper management, to confer so much good on the country:

MANIFESTO OF MR RUDING,
Manager of the London and River Plate Bank, relative to the fine imposed upon the Bank for non-declaration of capital.

To the Minister of the Hacienda, Sir,

The Manager of the London and River Plate Bank declares, that at the beginning of this year there came to this city the first commissioners of the company, for the purpose of investigating the capabilities of this place in matters of exchange, and also the general credit of the country.

In the beginning, that is to say, for the first three or four months of the year, our transactions were limited to a small capital, until the necessary steps were taken to commence drawing. I was sent from England, and arrived here in July of the present year.

As was announced in the papers of the day, in October I was able to commence operations in drawing, and proceeded to give the customary notices. Still, till this day, a year having elapsed since I presented the necessary solicitude, we have been deprived of the power of emission granted to other banks in the same position as ourselves.

Being a stranger in the country, I was totally ignorant of the necessity of paying either the Direct Tax, or any similar one; and the truth is, that to ignore alone can be attributed my not having published the amount of the capital, as it is perfectly absurd to suppose that it was done from any motive of fraud or malice.

For these reasons, I address myself to your Excellency in order that, in consideration of the publication of the capital of the Bank—the of the great proportions the Bank is likely to reach—the of the great boon to the public, in the introduction of foreign capital—of the delay which has occurred in putting it on the same footing as other banks, and of ignorance being the sole cause of the omission, which is now punished so severely, you may allow me to rectify the mistake and be fined moderately, in proportion to the transactions of our establishment.

For these reasons, I trust that you will take into consideration this picture.

JAMES CLEMENT RUDING.

Direct Taxation Office, Montevideo, December 15, 1861.

To his Excellency the President.

The undersigned having been informed of what has happened between this office and Mr. Ruding, Manager of the London and River Plate Bank, relative to the non-declaration of its capital, beg to state, that the date fixed for the recovery of the Direct Taxation, 30th October last, having passed without that establishment having complied with the rules made, and having been in operation since the 1st of November, the bank was denominated to this branch of the revenue. That, on being summoned, the manager presented himself and declared his innocence of intent of fraud, being perfectly ignorant of the law, and that he was not the person who had solicited from Government liberty to open the bank; but had only been sent out lately to represent that individual.

His lawyer, Dr. Lopez Vincent, pleaded that he was not bound to pay the tax for the whole year, like other banks, as the power of emission granted to others had been refused to him, so that the full capital could not be employed.

To this argument, which was also afterwards used by his attorney and head clerk, the undersigned opposed the sense of the law, which classed the bank under the head of a Drawing Bank only, and therefore making it responsible for the tax for the whole year, at the same time giving the bank sufficient time to make known the capital used in drawing.

As the time has elapsed since the bank was notified to return a note of its drawing capital, and not having done so, the bank has incurred the legal penalty.

This has been, as Mr. Ruding states,

an act of rigor on the part of this office, but was only carrying out the letter of the law.

Your Excellency has now to decide upon the rights and wrongs of the case, the undersigned abstaining from passing any comments.

J. J. GALLARDO.

The matter was then referred to other offices, and ultimately came again before the Minister, who decided that Mr. Ruding should be fined. We believe the fine was paid accordingly, and Mr. Ruding, in order to escape a repetition of the fine for the year 1863, made the following statement:

DIRECT TAXATION.

I, John C. Ruding, British subject, now living in this city, as Manager of the London, Buenos Ayres, and River Plate Bank, declare that I possess the following means:

Capital in circulation.

Effective capital in the year 1863, \$50,000 (s.)

Which capital I value as marked in the accompanying document, for the purpose of being taxed for that year, binding myself to the penalties incurred by understating the same.

Montevideo, February 18, 1861.
(Corresponding to 1863.)

For JOHN C. RUDING.

N. WHITE.

Special Commission of the Supreme Government.

Publish in the newspapers, with all the antecedents, that the London, Buenos Ayres, and River Plate Bank has declared that it possesses no more than fifty thousand dollars capital.

LAWRENCE, Chairman.

PEDRO TRIVIA, Secretary.

THE INAUGURATION.

MRI. CRAWFORD'S SPEECH.

Gentlemen—I wish to return thanks for the firm which I have the honor to represent, I am labouring under a doubt, difficulty, one element of which is from my want of knowledge of Spanish I necessarily know but little of what has been said in proposing the health of Messrs. Peto and Betts, and the other, that it is much less in accordance with my feelings to make flourishing promises beforehand of what we are going to do and to ask you to take them on trust, than to carry out the work, and allow them to speak for themselves.

I will however state what I consider it is due to the official character of this ceremony should be publicly known. That I have come to this country charged with the faltest instructions to push on the works of the Great Southern Railway with the greatest possible despatch, and for this purpose the large and efficient staff which has been placed at my disposal is now employed, and I promise you no energy shall be spared to ensure the opening of the line to Chacarillas at the earliest practicable date.

But, gentlemen, railways are not to be constructed without labour and toil, and many a hard day's work and sleepless night is in store for those charged with the conduct of such operations before they can be carried to a successful termination. I think, therefore we may fairly enough ask the sympathy and good will towards the undertaking of every person present here to day. But it is not on this side of the Atlantic alone that such thorough going measures have been adopted for the prosecution of the works. Many of the materials necessary for the construction and working of the railway (as most of you no doubt are aware) have to be sent out from England, and some of the best talent there has been engaged for this department, so as to ensure the quality of the materials and their regular shipment. Contracts for the supply of these materials have been made with the most eminent contractors in their own branch, and some ships laden with rails and machinery are now on their way out here, so that I can safely affirm that no arrangement has been left unmade by Messrs. Peto and Betts that could have been thought of to insure the satisfactory and speedy realization of the enterprise.

Among the speeches which have been made I do not think suffice of stress has been laid upon the benefits to be derived by such a country as this from a railway stretching throughout its fertile plains. The landowner has a certain and speedy mode of transport for his wood and other produce, while the merchant can calculate with certainty upon the delivery, at a fixed time, of the goods which he may have purchased. The general public will also benefit in no small degree by the safe and rapid means of intercommunication. Another in my opinion, is that I feel certain one result of the railway will be to convert the country which lies in the immediate vicinity of the railway into more of an agricultural district than it is at present when easy means of access to the chief market is effected.

We are accustomed in England, and indeed over the continent of Europe, to look upon railways as so essential to the progress of civilization that their benefits are there considered as established axioms, and I recollect on the Northern Continent of America, where the circumstances might be assumed to be more similar to the case in hand—upon the occasion of the opening of a long line of railway, a statement made

by most competent authority, to the effect that the enhanced value of the land actually intersected by the line in question (in comparison with its worth before the railway was projected) was so great that if the land-owners themselves had been compelled to subscribe the entire capital they would have been losers. But, gentlemen, while we this day celebrate the commencement of the practical phase of this undertaking, we must not forget what has been done by those who have undergone all the toils and troubles of the negotiations without being cheered by a view of the practical results which are now opening to us.

While I look at the worthy Chairman of the Local Committee, I can see by his face that he is in this day beginning to experience a faint taste of the pleasure which I trust is in store for him in seeing his enterprise which he has labored so hard for carried to a successful termination; and I can't sit down without thinking in the warmest manner both him and his colleagues for the kindness and urbanity which has distinguished all their dealings with me during our short intercourse, and which have so much facilitated my arrangements.

Again I beg to thank you for the honor which you have done Messrs. Peto and Betts, and I can assure you that no persons living have the success of this enterprise more at heart, nor will the proceedings of this day be read with greater interest by any others than by them.

FEDERAL JURISDICTION.

We translate the following important decree, which will be read with interest by the merchants. We differ with the judge in his decision, and hope the case will be brought up:—By appeal before the Supremo Court.

Finding:

Rosario, March 2, 1861.

1st. That, by order of this court, is suspended the action brought by the Administrator of the Custom house against various merchants to enforce payment of protested bills, and to prove the legality of the admission of Cordobese money, according to its legal value. That the debtors deposited in the Cu-tonti-house treasury the sum of \$334 dols. of that money, taking a simple receipt for the same.

2nd. That, on the 3rd of February last, the above-mentioned merchants, offering to pay the value of their bills in gold owners, they demanded back the amount they deposited in Cordobese money, they, as well as the administrator, declaring that these sums were given as guarantee for the protested bills.

3rd. That the above-mentioned sums were not returned by the administrator, he saying that he had sent them to Buenos Ayres for greater security, and that they would only be returned on interest and costs being paid on the unpaid bills; therefore, the debtors consider themselves perfectly justified in holding payment of the said bills until the Cordobese money be restored.

4th. That these aforementioned merchants have presented themselves before the law courts, requesting their money to be returned to them, free of all expenses, and considering:

1st. That the deposit of these amounts have been made in the most legal manner.

President Mitre's speech.—We again demand of the native papers to publish the eloquent oration of Gen. Mitre, & flattering to England and Englishmen. The excuse about losing the M.S. is a blunt: let them translate it from our bluffs.

Cotton in Paraguay. The official paper, "El Semanario de Asuncion" translates our report of the Cotton crop in Paraguay for 1864, with flattering remarks.

COMMERCIAL REVIEW.

Vessels arrived since Feb. 24th

24th Condoré from N. York; Oliva, Cporto; Celestribus and Eliza, Hamburg.

25th—Paulina, Cadiz; Centinela, Corral.

26th—Lluecas Ayres (s.s.) Genoa; Providence, N. York; Virginia, Jamaica, Hamburg.

27th—Huyter, Antwerp; Invisible, Cadiz.

28th—St. Pierre, Havre; Marchal, Pellerier, and La Plata, N. York.

29th—Pirro, Barcelona; Ametia, Antwerp; Egypt, Portland.

March 1st—India, Tarragona; Ana Gossia, Hamburg; Independencia, Dunkirk.

2nd—Giuseppe Ferraro, Ferraro; Virgen del Carmen, and Pa, Barcelona.

3rd—Capitano, Cardiff; Eleonore, Liverpool; Florence, Troon.

4th—Caroline Corneille, Hamburg; Am Bayonne.

5th—Doctor Juris, Cadiz.

6th—Augustin, Cadiz; Giulietta, Barcelona; Semirana, Liverpool.

7th—Marchesina, Genoa; Augusta, Cadiz.

8th—Gratitud, Barcelona.

Vessels Sailed.

TO ANTWERP.

Feb. 24th—Danckbarkeit, G. Antille, Cornelio, Susana. 25th—Fils unique, Zougli, and Hermes. 26th—Francesca, NEW YORK.

25th—Manuela. 26th—Prima donna, March 5th—Eliza.

ENGLAND.

March 6th—Jacobs, HAVRE.

Feb. 25th—Abd-el-Kader, March 3rd Cuban; 4th Pividal.

MARSEILLES.

March 2nd—Joseph, CEITE.

Feb. 29th—Ileni and Louise, BORDEAUX.

March 2nd—Amelie, LOSTON.

Feb. 25th—Lorenz 26th—Henriette LONDON.

March 4th—Alabama, LIVERPOOL.

March 5th—La Zingara, GENOA.

March 3rd—Emirene, AUKYAB.

March 2nd—Quentin Mataya, JAVA.

March 4th—Nest, BRAZIL.

March 2nd—R. & C.—7th, Maria Alfredo.

HAVANA.

March 2nd—Amable—3rd Pedro Antonio.

INDIES.

March 5th—Juan Taylor.

EXPORTS.

The sudden rise in gold has caused our import market to be rather dull; buyers from the country are also rather scarce, and the only articles which show any improvement are those from Genoa. Many articles are selling at apparently higher prices in paper money, but this is fictitious, owing to the severe depreciation in our currency.

Spanish Wines.—The market is so well supplied, and the arrivals so heavy, that it is impossible to expect any improvement in this article for some time.

Sugars.—This staple is in very good demand, and the market is remarkably firm, with a tendency to rise. Holders ask higher prices than what buyers will give. No heavy sales have been made during the fortnight: 12,000 lbs., ex La Plata, refined sugar; mark "Steward," at 18 lbs. on board; 200 lbs. refined do., ex Havre, at 7½ in deposit. Brazilian sugars are also in good demand, and the prices may be quoted as follows:—16 lbs. for white, 14 for brown, and 12 for dark. The stock is estimated at 1,500 bars.

Kerosene.—This article is becoming daily more, and more in demand, but the stock on hand is very heavy. The price quoted is \$20 msc. per gal. delivered.

Ale.—This is in good demand, and good brands sell well; last sale, 160 lbs. in deposit.

Flour.—The arrivals of this article are very limited, the last sale was 200 lbs. at 7½ pds. on board. Native manufactured flour has an upward tendency, and sells at present at \$37 msc. per arroba.

Tobacco.—Paraguayan has a downward tendency; the prices quoted are—first class, 28 to 28½ lbs.; second class, 18 to 22 in deposit.

Yerba-mate.—Paraguayan sold at \$176 in deposit, and last price 172. Paraguayan, \$42 to \$43 despatched; Misionera, \$35 to be despatched.

Salt.—Arrivals less numerous during the month, and rates slightly improved. Cadiz has despatched at 7 and 7½ lbs.; last price firm. The season being advanced, we cannot expect a favorable

reaction, and for some time further all arrivals from Cadiz will involve a loss. Coal. Cardiff sold at 9 dols. per ton. The stock on hand is more than sufficient for several months' consumption, and we cannot expect any immediate favorable change.

American pins. This article continues bad. Buyers are little anxious to lay in supplies, owing to the daily fall in paper-money. A cargo from Portland has been sold at 20 dol. and N. York is nominal at 31 to 32 dol. per thousand feet.

Tiles. Havre getting firmer. The St. Pierre cargo shipped 243 on board. Marecille unchanged, and very dull.

EXPORTS.

The sales of saladero ox and cow hides during last fifteen days are—

3,500 cow hides 33 lbs.
10.0 ox. " 37 " "
3,500 do. " 39 "

10,000 hides—Stock.

In saladero tallow the sales are—300 lbs. in halves, at 14½ lbs.

In saladero horse hides no sales.

In matadero salted hides the sales 3,000 hides at 32 and 33 crows; 33 and 33 lbs. ox.

In mares grease no sales.

In jerked beef the sales are 7500 lbs. at 14 and 19 lbs.

Total sale of hides since Nov. 1 1863 197,500

Total slaughter 192,500

Fortnightly's slaughter 12,000

Hides to make 9,000

The total sales of dry hides during the fortnight are 55,500. The total stock of all classes now remaining made is 52,700 hides.

In American hides the sales are 31,000 lbs. 42 and 43 E. Rios, 40 and 41 Corrientes, classified 37 to 40 lbs. Stock 4,000 hides.

In German hides the sales are 8,500 at 39 to 40 for camp cow, ox, 45; matadero cow 49, mat. ox 49 lbs. Stock 6,000 hides.

In Spanish, French, and Mediterranean hides the sales are 16,000 hides at 39; 49 heavy, kips 31, 34½ lbs., Corrientes 31 lbs., Paraguay 40 lbs., Cor. dova 39 lbs.

Exports since Feb 15th.

Ox and cow hides dry 89,203
do. " salted 48,763

Horse hides dry 3,007

do. salted 6,666

Tallow pipes 630

do. boxes 807

Mares' grease pipes 50

Wool bales 14,781

Horsehair bales 257

do. bags 13

Sheepskins bales 1348

Jerked beef quintals 10,695

Horn 7,000

Shin-hones 195,000

Hide-cuttings bales 190

Calcekins 429

DRY HIDES.

The sales for the past fortnight of all classes, and from all places, amount to 35,500, the greater portion of which have been for North America and the Mediterranean, comparatively few being for the northern parts of the Continent. With the exception of the Paraguay hides, which have fetched former prices, all other classes have shown a slight improvement, those for America and Germany having brought the best prices.

The following are the particulars:—

Hides for North America—Since the 21st ult., 41,000 hides have been sold as follows:—Entre Rios, at 42 to 48 lbs. (s.), transhipped; Corrientes, 41 lbs. do. do.; Buenos Ayres, assorted from 21 to 23 lbs., at 40 lbs. on shore. There are still some 5,000 hides, estimated, still on hand.

Hides for the North of the Continent—8,500 hides have been sold.

Calfskins from the camp, 45 lbs. (s.); cowhides, 30 to 40 lbs. (s.) do.; calfskins, Matadero, 47 lbs. (s.) do.; cowhides, Matadero, 40 lbs. (s.) do.

There are still on hand, 10,000 hides, estimated, still on hand.

For France and Italy—2,000 dried hides, 29 lbs. (s.); 1,000 bullskins, 30 to 36 lbs. (s.); 2,000 calfskins, 30 to 34 lbs. (s.); 30,000 Corrientes, 41 lbs. (s.).

For Spain. No hides of this product have been sold. There have been disposed of 60,000 Cordoba, at 37 to 40 lbs. (s.), and 2,000 Paraguay, at 40 lbs. (s.). Still on hand, 10,000 hides of this province, assorted.

Entre Rios Hides.—The sales effected have been up to 42 lbs. transhipped. None left on hand.

Cordoba Hides—6,000 have been sold for Spain, at 37 to 39 lbs. (s.), transhipped. Still on hand, 8,000 hides.

Paraguay Hides—200 have been sold at former prices, of 34 to 34½ lbs. (s.), on shore.

Foal skins have been sold at 24 to 35 lbs. (s.), ready for shipping.

Decalskins have been sold at 60 do. on.

PRODUCE SALES.

1200 dry cowhides, matadero \$139

300 do. do. do. 135

500 do. do. do. 133

600 arr. wool, mixed 72

700 do. do. 68

400 do. do. 60

420 do. do. ordinary 52

8000 do. mestiza 83

120 dozen sheepskins 105

80 do. do. 110

WOOL MARKET.

Wool in general maintains their former figures, and higher prices for better qualities can be obtained.

Arrivals from the camp still continue, but not on the same scale as in former months. Arrivals from the provinces are of no great extent, on account of the difficulties of carriage consequent on the drought and the disturbances caused in Cordoba by political affairs. We expect, however, that we soon shall have heavy arrivals from that district, as, by the last accounts received, both causes have disappeared.

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