

The Standard

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The Standard.

"All fall asleep all are not asleep alike." - Cicero.

FRIDAY, MAY 20, 1864.

THE PARAGUAY LETTER. Sr. Berge's letter to Minister Ellizalde has taken Buenos Ayres by surprise. Our colleagues can hardly find epithets strong enough to use towards the Paraguayan Minister, and threaten a reply from M. Ellizalde which will annihilate M. Berge's.

M. Berge has the advantage of our minister in this respect, that he has travelled through Europe and the U. States and in the discharge of his duty as special envoy, has mixed with the leading diplomatists of those countries.

We cannot take on us to say how far correct the charges are which the Paraguayan Minister makes respecting the want of good faith and construction manifested in M. Ellizalde's notes, and we have not read them, but we opine that our minister would have consulted more his own and his Government's interests in refraining from publishing M. Berge's note.

There is an open simplicity in the Paraguayan Minister's note which gains for him in the estimation of all unprejudiced people. He states his case plainly and without any awful superfluity of words, and comes right to the matter at issue.

The following is the Paraguayan Minister's letter.

In fine, the result of the notes of the Paraguayan Government, asking explanations from that of the Argentine Republic with respect to the expedition which Government has been a dead silence of ten weeks; and this delay is likely to cause difficulties, and interrupt pending negotiations.

Such unsatisfactory results cannot but render negotiations very difficult for this Government, which cannot do less than look with distrust upon the Argentine Government, which has delayed so long in giving the explanations which your Excellency in your note of 31st December, so expressly states would be forthcoming, and it is my painful duty to say your Excellency's attention to the total fulfillment of your promise.

It is anything but pleasant for my Government to reiterate the assertion, which is the ground of this present note, that some points in my note of 6th January are capable of causing difficulties, and interrupting pending negotiations.

And if this Government ought to be grateful to that of the Argentine Republic for the consideration which it has shown to my former notes, I can not help noticing that your Excellency's explanations, so repeatedly requested, and on that account the Paraguayan Government cannot rest satisfied with your note of 31st December.

Late events in the River Plate give a more definite significance to the position of the Argentine and Oriental Governments, which cannot but arrest the serious attention of this country, and all explanations, so repeatedly requested, and on that account the Paraguayan Government cannot rest satisfied with your note of 31st December.

Your Excellency in your note of 31st December states that all diplomatic measures having failed, Government was looking for a just reparation, and afterwards you say that the two Governments had accepted the mediation of Mr. Thornton, her Britannic Majesty's Representative; a proof that all conciliatory measures had not failed.

In my note of 21st December I stated that your Government had been informed that the Argentine Government had proposed forming Martin Garcia, and the troops of the interior provinces had received orders to march towards the frontier, and that your Excellency had replied that you would do your utmost to prevent the exercise of power in the River Plate.

In your note of the 31st of December you state that the Argentine and Oriental Governments, which caused the former to take conciliatory measures, but that they were not able to succeed in their negotiations, which pointed between your Government and Paraguay.

This explanation, I am sorry to say, is not at all satisfactory, and I am convinced that the fortifying of the frontier with the independence of any of the States of the River Plate.

Martin Garcia would in any way interfere with the independence of any of the States of the River Plate. On the contrary, it appears to this Government that the Oriental Republic is hurt by the fortifications and vessels of war assembled at Martin Garcia, as they prevent the Oriental people of war from interesting the supplies which are sent from Buenos Ayres to General Flores.

It is far from the intention of this Government to deny the Argentine Republic the right to vindicate her honor, so long as the independence of the Oriental Republic is not endangered; but it should have preferred that some other steps had been taken, which might prove the moderation which, your Excellency says has been shown in the differences with the Oriental Republic, and that would give any ground for the public idea that you give protection to General Flores.

My Government, in asking explanations, only desired to preserve peace and tranquility among the River Plate nations, and deeply regrets that the Argentine Government did not think it to comply with the request, and it really there is already a plethora of General's among our militaries. There is also a bill before committee to pay full pension to the veterans of Independence; this seems just, nevertheless it will be an additional charge on our reduced exchequer.

Things being so situated, I am under the disagreeable necessity of stating that, in the absence of these friendly explanations which were requested, my Government, in future, must take its own view of such matters as may endanger the sovereignty and independence of the Oriental State, to which we cannot remain silent spectators, either for our own interests or for those of the River Plate.

I take this opportunity to say, José BERGUES, Nacion Argentina.

THE BARRACAS MARKET.

We cannot say that we are much surprised that Republican Government, ministered, as they usually are by a false spirit of economy, should seek to huddle together attributes and talents which require alike distinct duties, as they do experience, for by so doing the treasury is saved so much in the shape of salaries; but we are astonished that men who occupy good positions should ruin their reputation by accepting offices of such heterogeneous duties, that it is an absolute absurdity to suppose they can properly discharge the same.

The present person we have to deal with is Charles Tejedor, who, we believe, is a lawyer, was a minister, and it is thought, has some aspirations at being an itinerant victualler.

There is a suburb of Buenos Ayres, called Barracas, it is thickly populated, and is daily increasing in importance; a scheme for building a suitable market place has been sent into Government, the matter, of course, was sent for consideration to a person who knew nothing whatsoever about the wants and requirements of the people of Barracas.

Now, if we remember aright, when M. Pastor Obligado was railway inspector, he had the honesty to say that he would act to oblige the Government, although he knew nothing whatsoever about rail ways. This was candid of M. Obligado, and consequently saved him from our censure for all his subsequent mistakes; but Mr. Tejedor lacked the discretion of Don Pastor, and when the Barracas market affair was referred to him, gratuitously asserted that the people in Barracas were well enough as they are, and required no market.

We quote this case merely as an instance of the utter incompetence of some of our public men, and to prove to our readers that the base of this country is putting 'wrong men in wrong places.' If Government had referred the market question to any resident in Barracas; if Señora Botet, Fernandez, Suarez, Videla, or any other respectable resident of the place was consulted, we should have less room for complaint; but the monstrous idea of consulting a city lawyer, who had his market stand between Calle San Martin, whose bearings are saturated in politics—to ask this man whether the people in Barracas required a market or not, is so obvious a blunder, that we are forced to call the public attention to the matter.

Personally speaking, we know nothing whatsoever of Mr. Tejedor; he may, for all we know, be as proficient a lawyer as an uneducated politician; but the people in Barracas are indignant that he should be the author of their rights, and lament that the nation's interests are at the will of this disciple of Olity.

We opine that it would be judicious for this celebrated market lawyer to reconsider his 'fat,' as we understand it to be the incitation of the free and enlightened inhabitants of Barracas, in case, through M. Tejedor's prejudice, they are deprived of a market to erect a statue of decomposition bones, pork, beef, &c., to the ante-nuptial

memory of so distinguished a lawyer. Candidly speaking, we cannot see why the Government should refer such a question to M. Tejedor, unless for the purpose of taxing the patience of the people of Barracas, or of throwing odium on a man who, we believe, has, after all, some claims on the public.

CONGRESS.

The Deputies are still under a cloud, but we may expect those legislative constellations to shine again to-day, the committees having announced business on hand.

The Senators have begun skintaming, Messrs. Pizarro and Alsina leading on the trailblazers. The vote of censure on the Executive, touching the exposed state of the Cordoba frontiers, will hardly pass; but it would be well to call the War Minister before the house on the matter. Government solicits a General's cocked hat for old Mr. Blas Pico, the hat is before Committee, but really there is already a plethora of General's among our militaries. There is also a bill before committee to pay full pension to the veterans of Independence; this seems just, nevertheless it will be an additional charge on our reduced exchequer.

The arrangements of the English, French, and Italian claims have been submitted for ratification; also the debt contracted with Brazil in upsetting the tyrant Rosas. Dr. Marcos Paz proposes to give a loan of 200,000 dollars, and appoint a Mayordomo, involving an additional expense of 1260 patacons per annum.

The President's Friday evening tea-parties have not yet been resumed.

EDITORS TABLE.

All the tailors in town are unusually busy, and the May festivals will be extraordinarily brilliant, if it do not rain. The platforms and fireworks are being constructed in the Plaza; The Museum and Cathedral will be illuminated by gas-jets. It is said the Municipality cedulas this time will be more respectable than last year; at least one per cent. of the lottery will be prizes.

There will be no inauguration of the Western Railway to Villa Luxan, but the prolonged line will be open to public traffic on and after Monday, 23rd inst. It is not clear that Monday will be a holiday, nor can we say about Thursday. The pocket edition will appear in any case before departure of the Mersey (Friday, 27th).

Mr. McGovern is going ahead with the Boea cart-works. He has the terraplan finished from the yellow house under Lezama's quinta to the Barraca de Peña. Owing to the great scarcity of English vessels at home, Mr. Wheelwright writes that he finds difficulty in shipping the rolling stock for the Boea road.

We have to return our sincere thanks to an Irish gentleman, Mr. M. Parker, one of the passengers per 'Kepler,' for two bags of New Orleans cotton seed, which he has generously presented us with, in acknowledgement of our efforts on behalf of cotton planting. Parties wanting seed will please apply at our office.

The 'Tribuna' has at last joined with us in asking the abolition of the lottery. We hope that the government will consider the matter. Labour is very scarce at present owing to the number of hands employed on our railways, yet there are over five hundred strong able-bodied men going about town asking for a living by selling lottery tickets. It is a most immoral system of creating a revenue for the municipality, and should at once be abolished.

The printing for Congress has created a regular fuss amongst the printers. The following is the way the matter was settled. By Messrs. Bernheim & Bonco the printing of the orders of the day to Messrs. Varela and Casafusti, the 'Diario de Seniores,' to the National, the daily newspaper reports.

We hope the Congressmen will, now that this country is so intimately connected with England, think it advisable to pay us for translating and publishing the proceedings of Congress in English.

The news from the camp is very good. The flocks are now all limbing very fat, grass is high, water is plenty, and sheep farmers are in good spirits. The new luggage van of Mr. Rummel left town yesterday for Chascomus. It is such a great improvement on the old one that it is causing great surprise as it passed through collo

Buen Orden. We wish Mr. R. every success in his new enterprise. We are happy to assure our readers that a sound practical emigration company, taken out of us, was something of the kind lately, and hope President Mitre will lend his influence towards organising the society.

As there are numerous young men at present in the city anxious to embrace the sheep-farming business, we advise them to see Messrs. Aguirre and Murga, who offer, for minding flocks of one thousand sheep, horses, corral and losses, rations, two hundred and fifty dollars per month, and two dollars per head increase in the flock at the end of each year. We consider these are very fair terms, and hope to see our unemployed countrymen accept them.

There is at present for sale a large tract of land, extending from Dolores to the coast, some 91 leagues in extent; it is all private property. We believe that the proprietors would sell for \$200,000 dollars per league. Our object in mentioning this matter, is to see if we can get fifty Irishmen who will keep their money and work in the matter, we shall open a list in our office. Fifty, or even twenty, of our camp subscribers, could most easily purchase this property, which in a very few years will be worth ten times the money. We request our readers in the country to think the matter over. There are several estates on the property in question; the land is all measured and 'mejon'-ed; the title is the most unquestionable in the country, and approved of by Government. Consists of a finca, and let us give a long pull, a strong pull, and a pull altogether, and the 91 leagues of land, the very finest in the province, will be ours.

The people in Chivilcoy are about to erect a statue to Garibaldi. We opine it would be far better for them to invest their spare dollars in making roads and getting out a few traction engines, to keep their money and local from rotting at the chimneys for the want of proper conveyance to market.

CAUTION.

We regret to say that it is our duty to advise our readers of the existence of a gang of English and German burglars in this city. The fellows who were caught in Mr. Hargrave's store last week are some of the gang who robbed Mr. Visser's safe some months ago. It is the duty of the Chief of Police to give every publication to the statement of the prisoners, in order that we may all be on our guard. One of the fellows in prison says his name is Smith, and that he is a machinist by trade. (Colleagues please copy.)

MAGAZINES FOR MAY.

There was a time when Buenos Ayres boasted not a single monthly publication, but within the last year half a dozen have sprung up. We will review them *seriatim*.

The River Plate Magazine contains some very interesting papers. The 'Daughters of Paraguay' is a horrible recital of the sufferings of 20 Argentine citizens under the gloomy despotism of Francia; it affords us a contrast with the present order and prosperous rule of President Lopez, for which we have to congratulate the inhabitants of that country. Mr. Charles Murray writes that the 'Sincera' of the city, showing that *olity* (olity) water is very wholesome, and that the river water when taken from proper quarters is purer than that of the Seine. 'Thames' and 'Hutchinson's' paper on the Convent of San Lorenzo will be read with interest. Mr. Lewis contributes a history of the National Library, wherein we see that the great subscribers were all Englishmen, a fact not generally known. The chapter of Argentine History treats of the conquest of Corrientes, and first Governors of Tucuman. We have the first canto of Zoo, a poem of ambitious aspirations but very imperfect verification. Mr. Duñaff's letters on the introduction of sheep into Australia are valuable. Dr. Harnestier favors the public with a scientific review of the Public Museum. Finally, Sr. Estrada gives us a sketch of Payson, the Hercules of Paraguayan mythology, but the style of translation is even more obscure than the subject treated of. On the whole, this number is interesting, but it is a pity the books have not been read more carefully.

The Revista de Buenos Ayres opens with a graphic account of the capture of the *Konewald*, Spanish frigate, by the British privateer for the command of the heroic Irishman, Colonel O'Brien, who fell like Nelson, in the hour of victory. Sr. Carranza is the author of a paper on Buenos Ayres naval annals before the time of Admiral Brown. The Historical Records treat of San Luis in the beginning of this century, by Don Domin Huidob, South American. It is a most interesting. Mm. Carrizo

tributes a *critique* on female coquetry—we should like to see her try her hand on male coquettes. Atahualpa is a novelette by M. Palma. Dr. Quesada's romances of Corrientes are picturesquely drawn. Dr. Vazquez's notes on Tucuman deserve to be studied by all who have at heart the trade and condition of the interior. Sr. Cancho's zoology for hair powder, and Dr. Tristany's mineral investigations are very apropos. This being the 12th No. of the Revista we have to congratulate the talented editors on the conclusion of their first year. Their magazine has not only afforded us many a pleasant hour, but diffused a varied fund of information respecting these countries. The Revista carries a new and most useful branch of literature in Buenos Ayres, for which we must all feel sincerely grateful.

The faithfully publication, *Medico-Quirurgica*, 8th inst. contains many interesting data. We find that nearly two-thirds of the patients in the native hospitals are foreigners, and here we feel bound to express the gratitude of many of our countrymen who were treated with much tender care, gratuitously, in the institutions. The inmates of the Lunatic Asylum are evenly divided between natives and foreigners. The rest of the serial is made up of medical investigations uninteresting to all but the faculty.

M. Palliere's Album has been hailed with great and well-deserved applause, and we are happy to find a large proportion of his subscribers among our countrymen. His pictures are a faithful record of S. American life. In the 'Asado' he gives so truthful a delineation of gaucho habits that we fancy the group entitled before us. The 'Pose' of the fellows around the table, and only equaled by him, 'Señorito Mate', and the horse tied under the foreground. The 'Portada' in *Guerra* shows a less noble phase of Argentine life, and is most happily executed by the painter; but the grave scene of the temple has a feeling of restraint, less charming, though not less true than the former sketches. We do not hesitate to say that a year's collection of these engravings will be one of the most unique productions of art.

The above local publications, we may add an American one, with which we have been favoured by the agent, Mr. Drial, 106 Calle Reconquista, *Godley's Lady's Book*. We have just received a number of the most interesting and amusing magazine, and however hackneyed the phrase may be, we cannot help saying, 'that no house, where there are women and children, should be without it.' It has, as usual, large plates of the fashions, and a very pretty engraving, besides some samples of embroidery. The letterpress of it is very fair, and the price extraordinarily cheap.

PRISON REFORM.

We are happy to say that we noticed in the 'Tribuna' of Wednesday some few remarks upon the lamentable state of our prisons, and we readily join with our colleague in calling for reform. The state of the 'carcel' in Buenos Ayres is such that every few years an eruption breaks out and either the scaries are shot down and the prisoners escape, or vice versa, the ringleaders are killed and the rest put in irons.

It is time, however, that some measures be taken to remodel our prison system. If we are to believe report, the place is at present full of cut throats and assassins, and the judges will not sentence these ruffians to be executed, meanwhile the people have to pay for their support, and these felons live on the fat of the land.

Our colleague, the 'Tribuna,' however, is wrong. What we want, instead of prison improvement, is judicial reform. No man, of course, is at liberty to call the judges of the land a set of ruffians, but at least we can say that they are so slow in their decisions that the public welfare is endangered.

We thank our colleague, the 'Tribuna,' for talking the matter up, and would suggest that every month a general jail delivery should take place, the same as at home. Every prisoner should be brought forward, placed on trial, and either acquitted or condemned.

As a general rule the less leniency displayed towards prisoners charged with heinous offences, the better, but all common sense is necessary to implement should be at once sent out of the city to one of the islands and made to sow rice and tobacco.

We hope the 'Tribuna' will take this matter up and help us. We want a thorough judicial reform and a convict establishment. If the 'Tribuna' and 'Nacion Argentina' will support us, we hope yet to see all the ruffians of Buenos Ayres engaged at the mouth of the Guazú in augmenting the exports of Buenos Ayres, instead of spending their time playing cards in the 'carcel' of this city.

STATE OF THE PAPER MONEY.

As it is to be supposed that some at least of our readers take an interest in the paper money question, we give the following official account of the state of our paper *maché*:

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes 'According to the laws of 1850 and 1861 ... 160,000,000', 'Barrued down to 9th September 1863 ... 54,790,000', 'Deduct the amount burnt this month ... 4,000,000', and 'Total ... 101,210,000'.

There is therefore altogether a circulation about 336 millions of paper money, which the sooner burnt the better for the country at large.

PARANA.

We have received our files of 'El Litoral,' and can find nothing in them of any interest. Things, in that part of the world, are in a very ditto-way state; in fact so dull, that the newspapers, departing from the general rule of allowing a man's bones to rest quietly for 25 years with his fathers before publicly criticising his character, have actually to write ex-Governor Uguro's deeds and misdeeds. This is severely fair—it is too bad to dissect and scarily a living subject. The 'Litral' rejoices at the resignation of office of Don Domingo Comas, who was lately *Geo Politico* of that region. This is the party, our readers will remember, who were scolded in such a magnificent style by 'el pifallo' on the late election of Governor, and who stood unlimited drinks to the crowd. His late Secretary, Don Manuel Vontes, is talked of as succeeding him.

The same authority says that a new Cicero has appeared to stun the world with his oratory, in the person of the new Governor, Don Jose Maria Dominguez. Don Jose Maria Dominguez is such a wag that there is no knowing when he is talking seriously. However, he hints as if my, Carrigo says that Dominguez has been taking lessons in snubbing from the Judicial body holder, Paul Weston, and on being asked in the Chambers why the Government employees were not paid their salaries—we beg pardon—we have answered that 'the Ministers of the Treasury were busy counting the cash; and if they were not engaged in that agreeable occupation, it was solely owing to the circumstance of there being no money to count.'

The old nursery rhyme says that when the Queen counts her money she fortifies her constitution by eating bread and honey. We suppose that the Parana Ministers of Finance, (instead of doing like hoden when counting bricks and calling out 'ten and tally,') whenever they count a hundred, take a 'matecito.' This operation naturally takes up some little time, and Governor Dominguez treated the impertinent growling of the employes very properly, namely with contempt. What right have such fellows to ask for salary? They have had their chance of 'priggings,' and if they did not take advantage of it, it was their own fault.

THE MURDER OF DON AMIRON.

We have been favored with some particulars of the horrible crime recently perpetrated in that part of our suburbs called Huaco de Cubicatas. It seems the unhappy victim, was eating his dinner at a public table, when two brothers named Yurraqui, from the Lomas de San Lido, came in. One of the ruffians got into dispute with Amiron, and the other suddenly coming behind the latter stabbed him in the back, unawares. The wound was so terrible that the knife penetrated through the victim's body, and death was instantaneous. The murderer of course escaped, but the brother who began the dispute has been arrested.

INDIANS.

On the 1st inst., the Indians again came down lake lives on the field in Tu, in the province of Cordoba. Comandante Nicolas Aminechstege, writes as follows—

'The Indians which have advanced to Lencinas, belong to the tribe of 'Avipa Negra' (Black Wasps), and some of the Tobas (Thistle) tribe. The Cacique had called a great meeting of Indians to invade the province of Santiago, and they were only awaiting the result of this 'malon' when nothing could be more favorable for them. They again made a dash on the 6th inst., and penetrated as far as Rio 4°, and entered the puesto of Sr. Eloy Ayala, situated about 4 leagues from this the 'Arroyo del Sud'—'Tribuna.'

Wasps, either black or white, and thistles, are not the most pleasant things in the world to have come in contact with one's 'epidermis.'

