

THE

British Packet,

AND

ARGENTINE NEWS.

PRO BONO PUBLICO.

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No. 41.)

BUENOS AYRES, SATURDAY, MAY 12, 1827.

(Vol. 1.)

EXTERIOR.

COLUMBIA.

The Liberator, shortly after his arrival at Bogota, published the following Address to the Columbians:—

COLUMBIANS! It is five years since I left this city to march at the head of the Liberating Army, from the banks of the Cauca, to the silvery mountains of Potosi. A million of Columbians, two Sister Republics have obtained freedom under the shadow of your banners, and the world of Colon has ceased to be Spanish. Such has been our absence. Your disorders have called me to Columbia. I come, full of zeal to consecrate myself to the national will: that shall be my code, because, being sovereign, it is infallible. The national vote has obliged me to assume the supreme command. I morally abhor it, since, for this reason, I am accused of ambition, and of attempting at monarchy. What! Am I believed so infatuated as to aspire to descend? Is it not known that the office of LIBERATOR is more sublime than the throne?

COLUMBIANS! I return to submit myself to the insupportable weight of the magistracy, because, in the moment of danger, my separation would be cowardice, not moderation. But do not count on me longer than until the law of the people recovers the sovereignty. Permit me, then, to serve you as a plain Soldier, and true Republican Citizen, armed with the glorious trophies of our victories—YOUR RIGHTS.—Palace of Government in Bogota, 23d of November, 1826. BOLIVAR.

PERU.

Peru, according to the organs of her sentiments, has now assumed her natural position among the new States. She has loosed her destinies from the car of ambition, to follow the free impulses of her own wishes, in the way and manner popular unbiased counsel shall dictate. She is now starting in her career, and America is watching with anxious eye, to catch from the direction of her course some glimpse of the prospects that extend before her path. There are two circumstances brought to light by the late change there, which may be taken as partial guides in the formation of our judgments concerning the character of the people. The first is, that remarkably passive docility which they maintained during the pretended reign of terror and oppression; and the second is, that peaceable manner in which they divested themselves of the yoke, and the calm and undisturbed state in which it is represented as at present existings. If those statements are real facts, they give rise to considerations of particular interest to the future of Peru. They would induce us to believe that the people possess a greater stability of character than has yet been exemplified by the other new Republics; and therefore will not be marked, in the progress of regeneration, by those revolutions which are the most deadly enemies of national organization and prosperity, and to which are owing the actual evils which press most heavily on the credit and character of the nascent states. But, on the other hand, if there be any veracity in the reproaches and accusations of their former idols, we must seriously consider them as a secure prey to the first popular demagogue. A military chief, who shall have the favour and suffrages of the nation, and obedience manifested to the commands of the Liberator, according to their own recognition, without daring to utter a sigh, or whisper a complaint, but on the contrary to hasten to obey the demands with which ambition was blinding them amidst dangers, and fawning on the tyrant with the servility of a court flatterer, he is the man that sees him; is conduct that by no means suits the meridian of Republican America; it seems more suited to the metropolis of Turkey. Certainly we can find no ground in it that irritable sensibility which is peculiarly characteristic of the young nations around them. It may be observed

irritability is the cause of that feverish temper which keeps the new states in a constant ferment; but there is a certain degree of it necessary to keep up a healthy warmth in the political body, and to preserve in constant movement the active and vivifying principle of representative institutions. It may be also noticed, that the circumstances under which Peru obtained her liberty, and gratitude to the hero whose victories broke her bonds, restrained those feelings which a new sphere of existence tends to create and strengthen. This is the most favourable resolution of the question, and it is more grateful to our sentiments to be able to attribute it to this motive, than to listless apathy, or a servile, crouching disposition. It must be left to their future proceedings to justify or condemn these views. On this point, much, very much will depend on the leaders which have taken upon them to superintend the process of organization, and still more on the materials which are to compose the new machine. The varieties of national character will necessarily have no diminutive influence and when we turn to examine those which are most prominent in Peru, we almost tremble for the fate of that system which it is desirable should be established there, to fraternize and unite the governments of America. The moral state of a people has an undoubted effect on its political condition, while in proportion to the sum of heterogeneous elements which compose a nation, must be the fragility of the bond which holds them together. We have not much faith in that material creed which would make a man's food the criterion of his passions or his disposition, or the degree of latitude under which he lives, the measure of his mental capacity; but we may, without presumption, reason upon known and palpable facts which are open to ocular and unerring demonstration.

Immorality and corruption, indolence and sloth, in all its enervating forms, are not congenial to the operation of a system whose only solid basis is moral excellence, and mental illumination. A faithful picture of the deficiencies which are observed in these respects among a population long contaminated with the vices of sloth, luxury, and political degradation, would probably damp the ardour of hope concerning the accomplishment of the grand design of regeneration; but, happily, there is some good interpose to the obstacles which will be encountered, to be found in the properties of the mind when placed under the beneficent shade of liberal government. They possess, in no ordinary degree, a powerful stimulating quality, and call to life those capacities which are crushed under the incubus of oppression. They communicate an individual importance to man,—they elevate the mind, exalt its aspirations, and expand its powers, while, in their extended operation, they purge society of those grosser habits that are peculiar only to men kept out of their natural station either by error or ambition. It is to these creative faculties we must look for the best foundation on which to ground our anticipations of success.

Among the other agents which are considered as contributing to retard the consolidation of the state, must be noticed the great proportion of aborigines, in comparison of the descendants of Europeans,—the prevalence of religious superstition,—and the aristocracy, which is perhaps more numerous there than in any other of the ex-colonies. The former is probably an evil which cannot be remedied, though it will undoubtedly be diminished by the progress of civilization. The second must give way before the liberality of views and sentiments which free institutions will propagate, as nothing can be more evident than the near connection there subsists between religious and civil liberty; and it may be assumed as a certain truth, that the one cannot long exist separate from the

other. With respect to aristocratic distinctions, they lose in America the greater part of their odious character, as the fertility of the soil, and the limited population, will not allow the exercise of those prerogatives which enormous wealth concedes to its possessor, in countries where the necessities of a redundant population keep no measure with independent feelings, or manly sentiments. It seems as an exotic, rather than an indigenous plant,—it indeed vegetates, but does not thrive; and from that quarter there is little to be feared, if the ideas to which their emancipation gives birth, shall lead them to prefer labour and liberty to laziness and servile dependence; if it does not effect that change, there is but little room for congratulation.

But these are but secondary considerations, as far as concerns national organization; though, when we behold the conflicts of other states of longer standing than Peru as independent nations, they augment our doubts respecting the results. The effects which we may anticipate from the continuance of the new institutions, not only on their political, but also on their social state, are not the work of a moment; and those sanguine views which are formed on a supposed precocity in the development of political powers, proceed rather from a laudable desire for their prosperity, than calm and rational examination of the nature and extent of those powers. The abilities of the persons who have taken the helm of state in Peru, we cannot decide upon. It is no ordinary enterprise which they have undertaken, and if they succeed, they will deserve well of America. If not, no trifling odium will be attached to their names; for there is little doubt but that they had a considerable influence on the measures which were taken. They will find it a much easier task to raise a storm, than to appease its fury or restrain its course, and that it is not the talents that shine in a declamatory allocution on popular rights, that qualify a man for the office of a statesman or a ruler.

BOLIVIA.

The relations of this Republic with Peru were so intimate, that it is not improbable but the late movements there, will have considerable influence upon her internal state. We have no information that would lead us to believe that the same means were employed to enforce the adoption of the constitution in that Republic, which are said to have been used in Peru, and therefore have not the same reasons to expect similar results: but we must remember, that disorders which arise in one individual, from the seeds of disease involved in the bodily system, may be communicated by contact to another which is in a completely healthy state; so, when our infectious nature of a revolutionary spirit, it is in a state able for Bolivia to catch the contagion. Though late affairs as in a tranquil state, there are various causes which lead us to believe, that if internal peace be not disturbed, some unpleasant difficulties may arise between the two governments with respect to the articles of a late treaty, stipulating the separation of the provinces Tarapaca and Arica from Peru, and their incorporation to Bolivia. The former province is rich in mines of silver, which yield annually 840,000 dollars; but what is of infinitely more importance to Bolivia, is the possession of the port of Arequipa, as she is absolutely dependent upon the maritime neighbours for every article of foreign manufacture,—an extraordinary position for any nation, and one which hereafter, should she quarrel with them, will give them an opportunity to retaliate with a vengeance, and place her entirely at their disposal. Natural relations of family or interest were not consulted when Upper Peru was separated from Buenos Ayres, and perhaps reciprocal good feelings may again lead to a union. In fact, Bolivia, if she wishes to secure herself against contingencies, will find it an imperious necessity to form a close and stable connexion with either her former fellow, or with Peru, unless she possesses the same resources as Paraguay, and such natural fertility of soil and simplicity of habits, as to be able to exist without commerce, or to feel no bad effects from being deprived of it. Santa Cruz has refused to ratify the treaty, though Bolivia was to give five millions of dollars, and a portion of her territory in exchange. The chief objection urged by Peru is, the injury it would cause to the revenue, and the encouragement it would afford to the contraband trade, by conceding Arequipa. By opening a long line of country to her neighbours, it would be absolutely impossible to prevent those effects without such enormous expenses in keeping up a large preventive force, as would not be counterbalanced by any remuneration, however liberal. Moreover, considerable objection has been raised to the project by the inhabi-

tants of the territory stipulated for, which, had it been attempted to be carried into effect, would have produced violent disorders in the country, and there are already too many elements of that kind without raising up others, merely to satisfy the necessities of a neighbouring state. What may be the consequences of these fruitless projects in generating ill-feeling and dislike between them, cannot be exactly foreseen; but one thing appears evident,—that a change in their positions with respect to each other, must take place sooner or later. They are, at present, any thing but friendly. Bolivia will behold Peru with jealousy, and Peru must look upon Bolivia with fear, as the strong hold of that influence which she has just overthrown and trampled upon.

INTERIOR.

SALADO.

From persons who left the above port at 1 o'clock in the afternoon of Saturday last, the following particulars have been collected:—

On Tuesday, 1st instant, the Brazilians first appeared, (10 sail,) and on Wednesday they were seen at anchor, from 14 to 16 sail, of all classes, including 3 frigates, corvette, brigs, schooners, &c. They immediately employed their boats in sounding, as if they intended to land troops. Some of their vessels that approached near got aground in the mud, but floated again when the tide made: one of them (a brig) fired four shot towards the shore, but none of the shot reached. On the night of Wednesday, Captain Mason despatched the privateer boat *Hijo de Julio*, full of men; she was anchored outside the harbour. Another boat was made to row guard, and whilst so employed came in contact with a Brazilian guard-boat, which was instantly attacked by a fire of small arms, and drove away. Captain Mason took the command of the marine department, and his conduct and exertions have been spoken of in the highest terms of panegyric. During Tuesday and Wednesday, a chain cable was placed, by his orders, with booms across the harbour, to prevent boats entering; six guns were put into 4 different vessels, and in such a manner as to rake and command the harbour, and 150 men, including 50 soldiers, were under arms all Wednesday night. Captain Coe, and the rest of the officers, exerted themselves to the utmost. On Thursday, several of the Brazilian vessels disappeared, and on Friday more of them, and on Saturday only four remained, viz.: corvette *Liberal*, one brig, a three-masted schooner, and a schooner. During the stay of the squadron, they, and those that remain, always got under weigh every morning, standing off and on until night, and then anchored from 7 to 8 miles from the port. On Friday, a brig under English colours hove in sight; four Brazilian vessels stood towards her, the brig hauled in shore, and between 10 and 11 at night the Brazilians fired several shot, boarded, and took away the brig to Monte Video. On Saturday, at 12 o'clock, a boat arrived at the Salado, with three men, and Mr. Holmes, prize-master of the privateer *Vencedor de Ituzaingo*, (late *Bolivar*), who gave the following relation:—The English brig is called *The Concord*, of Aberdeen, Captain G. Stewart Keith, bound from London to Monte Video. The privateer met her near Cape St. Mary's, and hailed Captain Keith to come on board: he did so, with 4 men. Holmes, and 5 men, were previously sent on board the *Concord*, as a measure of precaution, not knowing to what nation she belonged. A sudden squall came on, and the vessels were separated: when it cleared up the privateer was not to be seen. In this emergency, Holmes steered for the Salado. Finding escape from the Brazilians impossible, he and 5 of his men (2 remained on board,) left in the brig's jolly-boat, and pulled from 11 o'clock on Friday night, until 12 the following day. The privateer has taken a Hamburg schooner, the *Gertrude Elizabeth*, Captain Bleker, laden with naval stores, on account of the Brazilian government, and bound from Rio de Janeiro to Monte Video. Captain Keith, of the *Concord*, with 10 of his men, remained on board the privateer, the same with the rest of the crew were on the brig.

There are 21 vessels, of all descriptions, at the Salado, long 12's and a 6 pounder, are mounted in battery, and 150 to 200 men. Not the least alarm prevails of an attack, and other preparations, it is thought, effectually prevent being entered, and troops cannot be landed on the coast, from the great nature, the men would be of any use, if they were ever supposed that they maintained without all...

BUENOS AYRES.

Arrived yesterday, an American brig, with a general cargo. When near Cape St. Antonio, saw three merchant brigs outward bound. Passed Monte Video at night; saw a large ship outside, (supposed the Ganges, 84 guns, and a corvette; in the North channel saw two topsail schooners, and several zumacas and balandras; none of them appeared to notice the brig. On Tuesday a man-of-war brig signaled, and as no answer was returned, a chase commenced: lost sight of her at night. On Thursday, was chased by a corvette to near Ensenada: night came on, and lost her. Saw from the Outer Roads the Union, national schooner of war, and two gun-boats; at first conceiving them to be Brazilians, the American brig hoisted the Buenos Ayrean colours at the peak, but finding their nation, hoisted again the American flag.

Accounts have been received from Rio Janeiro to the 27th of April. The British packet Sheldrake, Captain Ede, arrived at Rio Janeiro, from Falmouth, on 21st of April, and sailed for M. Video and Buenos Ayres on the 24th. The Brazilian vessels of war at Rio Janeiro were, Pedro Primero, 74 guns; Princess Imperial, one of the new frigates built at Baltimore, lately arrived; Maria da Gloria, frigate; and several other vessels preparing for service. The Maria Isabel, another of the new frigates, built at New York, and which is described as being an extraordinary fast sailer, and the Pampero (late a privateer from Baltimore, captured by the above frigate off Cape Frio,) are cruising. The Pampero had not taken any prizes, and made great efforts to escape; but the frigate beat her upon every point of sailing. Captain Chase, of the Pampero, was placed in the hospital, but he had made his escape from thence, and left Rio Janeiro. Another privateer from Baltimore is on the coast, and has made several captures, and can be hourly expected from the same port. The losses to commerce by the privateers, is much spoken of in Rio Janeiro: the sufferers designate them as a set of unprincipled robbers.—We are glad they are at last made to feel the effects of war. The British line of battle ship, Ganges, had sailed for M. Video: Forte, British frigate, was at Rio Janeiro. A French frigate, do. corvette, do. brig, do. schooner, and a Dutch frigate, had sailed to the southward. Mr. Ragnet (the American minister,) and family, had left Rio for the United States, in consequence of the dispute relative to the brig Spark not having been settled. The Emperor was in Rio Janeiro. The brother of Lavalleja was strictly watched, and had not the same liberty as was given to the other prisoners. Nothing had been settled relative to the detained British merchant vessels at Rio.

There are no vessels blockading this port within 40 miles. Between Cape St. Antonio and Point Indio, there are a number of Brazilians cruising.

The schooner privateer *Sin Par*, Captain Tidbloom, arrived off this port and anchored in the Inner Roads on 9th instant, after a successful cruise of about two months, she having left Buenos Ayres on 11th of March, and has not in that period been to the southward of St. Sebastians. A tolerable blow has been inflicted on Brazilian commerce, besides profit to the owners of the privateer. Nine prizes are the result of the cruise—5 of which have arrived at the Salado, 2 sunk, 1 burned, and 1 sent to Brazil with prisoners. It is untrue that she had captured an outward bound Indianman, or taken money (Brazilian property,) from an English brig. If such an event has occurred, it must allude to some other privateer. The *Sin Par* came into port with 83 men on board, including a number of volunteers and negroes from the prizes. When coming into the Inner Roads, and viewed by telescopes from the shore, the singular appearance of some of the persons on deck attracted much curiosity: they had immense black hats, and a colour which at the distance looked like that appertaining to some order of Friars. It was wondered what could induce the Captain to bring so many to an atmosphere like Buenos Ayres. They proved to be natives of the Minas, and St. Pauls, wearing large hats, the fashion of their country. The *Sin Par* came through the north channel of the river, and below Colonia saw 2 brigs and a schooner, they did not appear to notice her. Spoke off the coast of Brazil the privateer new General Ma... she had taken one... The *Sin Par* had a narrow escape from capture. She fell off St. Catharines, the 74 gun ship *Pedro Primero*, and the new frigates from North America (*Amazon*, but now

called *Isabel*, and commanded by a Frenchman named Beurepaire,) sister, it is said, to that dashing frigate of the United States, *Brandywine*. They were conveying troops, and instantly gave chase to the privateer. The latter (no flag hoisted) stood away, and soon distanced the line of battle ship; but the frigate came up "hand over hand," as the sailors call it, affording another proof that even crack schooners cannot in a stiff breeze compete with a good frigate. The frigate fired 16 cannon shot, some of which fell at least a mile over the privateer, but none hit her. Affairs were getting rather critical, and after a 10 hours chase the *Sin Par* found it expedient to close with the land, which she did into ten fathom water, venturing to go near a battery, and lowered a boat as if intending to send on shore. The battery signaled the frigate. The frigate then hauled her wind, and night and a fog coming on, an escape was effected. Had things come to the worst Captain Tidbloom intended to land his men on some part of the coast, and to have blown up the schooner. Several officers of the *Sin Par* came on shore with each a negro slave boy, taken in the prizes, but now attached as servants. The poor fellows seemed somewhat frightened, doubtful perhaps of their emancipation.

On the 3d instant, a mulatto named Macedonio Campos, was apprehended by the commissary of police for San Isidro. He is supposed to be one of those villains who, a short time ago, stripped and robbed a foreigner, on the San Isidro road, and having taken all his clothes, even to his boots, wounded him severely. This same mulatto is one of the slaves who were redeemed by the State to serve in the army. He has served in various regiments, from which he has deserted fourteen times. For his crimes, he had been sentenced to prison and labour in the public works, and from thence to the squadron, about the beginning of last year. He has been apprehended thrice this year: twice he has been placed at the disposition of the commandant of marine, and now committed to jail, to take his trial.

DECREE.

The President of the Republic, in consequence of the dispositions contained in the law of the 18th of May, 1826, has issued a Decree, of which the following are the most important articles:

Article 1. The rent, or canon, established by the second article of the law of the 18th of May, corresponding to 8 per cent. annual for pasturage lands, and 4 per cent. for arable lands, upon the approved valuation of territorial possessions given in occupation, in conformity to the said law, shall be paid by the occupier, in the receptory general of the capital, in sums corresponding to periods of six months: July and December of the present year, and in the same months of successive years.

2. The debt of occupiers who may have obtained the possession of lands at any time between the prefixed periods, shall be adjusted according to the decrees of the 21st of April, and 27th of October of last year, paying it in the first succeeding period, and will be regulated so as to effect the ulterior payments in the 6 months.

3. The rent corresponding to the first year being to be paid in two payments, in the two following years, by those who may have obtained lands in conformity to the law of the 18th of May, each half, in the years in which it is to be paid, is divisible in the two six months of the year.

4. Delay in the payment of the rent due, beyond the period in which it ought to be realized, the occupier will be charged interest upon it, at the rate of 1 per cent. monthly, for the number of days which it may be retained.

5. If it should be necessary, to recover the rent owing, to use requisitions, citation, execution, or embargo, the costs and expenses shall be paid by the debtors.

We believe the whole of the State Lands are rented to individuals. Since the commencement of war, they have been taken with unusual avidity. The stagnation of commerce, combined with the change in the currency, have no doubt contributed to this. The former having thrown large capitals out of occupation, while the depreciation in the latter article has acted as a stimulus to investitures in permanent and improving property, such as grazing and agricultural establishments may be considered, to individuals, and also to the government, under the present regulations. The current of public attention is directing itself to the interior, and promises to produce essential benefits to the country, by adding to the wealth and resources of the nation.

LIST OF THE PRIZES TAKEN BY THE SCHOONER PRIVATEER,

SIN PAR.

San José Americano, zamacá,	arrived at the Salado.
Europa,	do. do.
Nova Flor,	do. do.
Sociedad Feliz,	do. do.
Lealçada,	schooner, do.
Brazilera,	zamacá. Sent to Brazil with prisoners.
Coqueao, Viajante,	do. Sunk.
Bon Esperanza,	do. do.
Piejante,	brig. Burned.

Spoke the American brig President, on a fishing voyage, and put 42 prisoners on board her; also an American ship on a fishing voyage.

The new General Mancilla schooner privateer, Capt. Wilder, arrived at the Salado 8th instant. Passed through the blockading squadron in a fog. She has made six prizes, 5 of which have been despatched to different ports, and 1 given up to the prisoners. Three of them were taken close to the Sugar-Loaf, Rio Janeiro. The prisoners speak of great discontent at Rio, on account of the war. She spoke two American ships, the Oriza from Santos to Cape de Verds, and Edward from Santos to Baltimore, and the schooner brig Louisa from Rio Janeiro to Santos. Saw a number of vessels of war, of all descriptions, cruising from Cape St. Mary's to the Salado.

We omitted to mention in our last the sailing of the schooner privateer Vengadora Argentina, on a cruise, 20th ultimo; and an American schooner for North America, 28th id.

We are happy to state that Admiral Brown and Captain Granville have quite recovered.

The Gun-Boats No. 2, and 3, sailed from this port on Sunday last, and took a direction towards Ensenada.

Since the year 1820, a great drought has been experienced in the province of Buenos Ayres, which has prevented good harvests of wheat in all this period, and has had its effects more or less injurious, on the breeding of cattle. In none of these years could the drought be called severe, as have been in other epochs, especially about the end of the last century; but the repetition for six years, has made necessary rains as abundant and frequent as we hope will fall in this year, according to the force with which the rainy season has commenced in the interior. In Buenos Ayres it has just begun, and gives hopes no less solid. A good year will give us beef and bread in abundance, as well as of the other articles of primary necessity which the country produces, and with this the calamities of the war will be less felt. When hitherto no attempt has been made in the country to secure permanent waters by means of ponds, or other reservoirs, the constant auxiliary of favourable weather cannot but be desired. —(Alcasagero.)

In consequence of the scarcity of fresh meat which has been experienced for some time past, His Excellency the President of the Republic has issued a decree, by which the price of beef is fixed at 6 rems the arroba, for the best quality, and 5 do. for the inferior. If these regulations shall be found insufficient for the purpose of keeping up a constant and ample supply of fresh meat, the government will grant the exclusive privilege of supplying the market with that article, to those persons who may offer to do it on the most reasonable terms. The preamble to the decree evidently shows that the principle which has hitherto been acted upon in relation to this part of municipal economy, has proved an erroneous one. Competition, in most countries, is the best guarantee of equitable prices in every commodity; while even authority itself cannot, without encroaching on individual rights, oblige the sale of private property of any kind, at a loss. The government is aware of this, but has been deterred from annulling the established system, because of the prejudices which exist concerning its attributes, which have hitherto always comprehended an intervention in the sale of articles of primary necessity, especially bread and beef. The preceding regulations are to continue in force only until the end of the present year, when the market will be open to all, and the price free from limitations, unless perhaps in particular cases. The same attention which has hitherto been paid by the Police to the weight of the articles, will still be continued. Any seller found defrauding in the weight, will be sent to serve in the army, or if unfit, for two years to the public works.

THEATRE.

Nothing in the shape of novelty has recently appeared. The Operas of "The Barber of Seville," and "Cenerentola," have been represented lately to crowded audiences, scarcely leaving standing room. Rossini is decidedly the reigning musical deity of Buenos Ayres, and we, in common with many others, are content to go with the stream, and range around his triumphal car. In London it would be high-treason to say as much, or prefer Rossini to Mozart. They will tell you, and it may be fact, that more mind is displayed in one Air of Mozart's, than in an whole Opera of Rossini's;—hint a comparison of talent, and all the "Professores" are up in arms. Fortunately a vast ocean separates us from their anger, and even if they should so condescend it will be long ere we hear of it, thus destroying the effect. Therefore, whilst the soft music of "Bona notte," and other delightful arias linger upon the imaginación, attending us even to our very slumbers, we shall shield ourselves under the Post's wing, and pettishly retort upon those who scoff, the well known lines:—

You take her mind, and I

Our readers are acquainted with the remainder. "El Barbero," and "Cenerentola," went off with great spirit on their last representation, and with vehement applause,—a contrast to the stillness which in former years reigned in the Theatre. It is hardly possible to speak of Angela Tani with indifference.—As 'Cenerentola,' her acting and singing when she enters the scene veiled, and her dulcet tones in the 'finale' of the last act, deserved the great attention and applause which the audience bestowed upon this highly gifted woman.

The attractions of the Opera have thrown the regular Drama into the shade. An incongruous medley called "Montegon and Capuleto," some Comedies and Farces have been performed: Velarde, and Matilda Diez, the hero and heroine. A girl, six years of age, named Montesdeoca, has likewise exhibited. The Bills theatrically announced her, or as the song denoted,

"That then the play bills did let fly,
That she was a young Ros—ci—i."

Little Montesdeoca, with the aid of music, simpered through her part very prettily. This precocity of talent, however, seldom lasts to mature age. In London and Paris there have been Juvenile Theatres, to instruct youth for the stage; neither have succeeded. A good actor is formed from inspiration alone. We remember, when a boy, to have seen Wallack, now of Drury-Lane Theatre, play the part of the 'Stranger' at the London Juvenile Theatre. It was then situated in Leicester Place, Leicester Square; formerly the "Sans Souci" and German Theatre.

VARIETIES.

PASSPORTS.—Many strangers imagine that British Subjects require a Passport to travel in their own country, or to leave it; and will scarcely believe that it applies only to foreigners; and even as it regards the latter, it is more than probable the system will soon have an end. A popular writer has lately observed,—“It is better to be content to run some risk from any wicked or senseless foreigner whom chance may have landed on the shores of Great Britain, and whom you may curb as easily as you would a similar character amongst yourselves; but do not defile a land sacred to Liberty, with these foreign pollutions of Passports, do not incorporate them with the British soil.”

The habitual use of Passports upon the Continent of Europe, cannot be dated further back than the French Revolution. At the commencement, they appeared under a form the most innocent, nay, even pleasing; for they were conceived in terms of recommendation from one Government to another, in favour of the individual who was the bearer. From so insignificant a beginning, they have become, in many countries of Europe, the instrument of undisguised tyranny. By refusing a person his Passport, he is denied the means of travelling, and thus they imprison within the State all whom a despotic government may think proper to detain, besides the obligation imposed upon Innkeepers, and private persons, to give information of their Lodgers, &c., all of which is derogatory to liberty.

In America, passports have been incorporated in the system of National Finance, and as a source of revenue, they are by no means a heavy tax; yet when connected with a long round of formalities, they become a fruitful cause of vexation and trouble, from which there are few who would not be free themselves by paying double the ordinary price. As they at present exist, there is abundant room for simplification and improvement, which doubtless will be introduced on the return of peace.

ADVERTISEMENT.

WANTED.—TWO SERVANTS, in an English House, No. 45, Calle de las Piedras.

PRICE OF SPECIE.

Doubloons,	34s. 6d. actual.
Spanish Dollars, - 200 per ct. prem.	Patriot Dollars, - 167 per ct. prem.
Quarter do. - 180 do. do.	Cut stamped Silver, 170 do. do.

FUNDS.

Rate of Discount in the Bank,	half per ct. per month
Do. do. private transactions,	two to three do. "
Public Funds, 6 per ct.	68 per 100.
Do. do. 4 per ct.	proportionally.
Bills on England,	50 the dollar.
Do. France,	230 centimes the dollar.
Do. Rio Janeiro,	11 to 12 discount.
Bank Sto.	90 per 100.