

THE BRITISH PACKET ARGENTINE NEWS

British Packet,

AND

ARGENTINE NEWS.

his Paper will be published every SATURDAY. The Subscription for three months \$ dollars All communications to be addressed to the Editors and left at No. 47, Calle del 25 de Mayo, or at the State Printing Office, where Subscriptions are received.

No. 55.) BUENOS AYRES, SATURDAY, AUGUST 25 1827. (Vol. 2.)

GREAT BRITAIN.

The newspapers received by the Lord Melville packet do not contain any thing of very great importance. In fact, from the immense size of the papers, one is obliged to wade through such a mass of uninteresting matter to get at any thing worth transcribing, as makes the perusal no ordinary task: however we have collected into a small focus all that appears important, and lay it before our readers, and for any omissions hope they will accept the "will for the deed."

The corn bill has been lost in the House of Lords, or rather abandoned by ministers. The Duke of Wellington introduced an amendment which left the ministry in a minority of 11: they in consequence gave up all further proceedings in it. The Princess Regent of Portugal has recovered from her illness. Parliament was to be prorogued the beginning of July. The war between Russia and Persia continues; though it is thought that peace will soon take place. Lord Liverpool is much better in health. The Buenos Ayres funds were at 61 in London: the Brazilian had declined to 56, but afterwards recovered to 58. The successes at Ituzaingó and the Uruguay had given confidence to the holders of Buenos Ayres stock. An improvement has taken place in the manufacturing districts, and there is employment for all who choose to work.—3 per cent consols at 86.—This looks like a continuance of peace. Mr. Canning's administration seems likely to sustain itself. The opposition of the Duke of Wellington, Lord Grey, Mr. Peel, &c., is evidently founded on personal dislike to Mr. C. The latter is represented to be in a very delicate state of health, from anxiety and vexation at the defection of his late associates. France is quiet, and apparently prosperous. The Greeks have suffered a serious defeat, before Athens, on the 6th of May: 2000 men were cut to pieces, or taken prisoners by the Turkish cavalry; and the remainder of the Greek division had great difficulty in retreating. General Church and Lord Cochrane effected their escape to the ships with infinite danger; the latter by throwing himself into the sea and swimming. The British troops in Portugal and the French troops in Spain still held their positions. Negotiations were in train for the evacuation of both countries; and, indeed, every thing in England wore the appearance of a long peace. The queen of Wurtemberg (late Princess royal of England) has arrived in London, after an absence of 30 years, upon a visit to her brother, George IV.

Extract from the London observer of 18th June.

Mrs. Couitts and the duke of St. Albans were married yesterday afternoon at Mrs. Couitts' house, Stratton street, Piccadilly. The

ceremony was performed in the grand drawing room; where an altar table, covered with rich crimson Genoa velvet, had been erected. His grace's uncle, the right honorable and reverend Lord Francis Beauclerc, read the morning service; at which were present the Marquis and Marchioness of Bute, Countess of Guildford, Earl of Besborough, Earl and Countess of Harrowby, Ladies North, &c. Sir Francis Burdett did not attend. The Duke is 25 years of age; the lady about 52: *chacun a son goût*. The latter, when she was Harriett Mellon, made her first appearance at Drury Lane theatre in January 1795, and was long thought the most beautiful woman on the British stage. Aubry Beauclerc, Duke of St. Albans, is a descendant of the celebrated Nell Gwynn by king Charles II.

BRAZILS.

Rio de Janeiro, August 8, 1827.

Many people were disappointed with the news by the Heron; however it was, more or less, what I expected. The news has completely put a stop to business. The exchange has declined to 32d. per dollar, and specie has risen, and is at present rising. Spanish dollars are 1600 rees, silver 47 per cent premium, 6400 pieces 100 percent, copper 16 to 20 per cent; and produce very high. What will be the end of this I don't know: you cannot imagine the distress of the lower class, for want of copper.

It is said that the Emperor and general Lecor are going to Rio Grande, and that a number of troops are to be embarked for that province: but I see no preparations. The truth is it will require great exertions on the part of the Emperor to raise the means and the "material;" and when got they are worth but little. The frigate Paraguassu had gone to Campos to convoy vessels to Rio Janeiro. She was out 27 days, and fears were entertained at Rio Janeiro that she had been captured. Had any resolute privateer attacked her, she would have been taken.

Bahia, 18th July, 1827.

This port has been in a manner blockaded by a brig privateer this week past. She has succeeded in making several captures, principally smacks. The Brazilian frigate Thetis and corvette Jurujuba were consequently sent in quest of her; but as yet have only succeeded in recapturing a fine crack brig Slaver, on her way hither from Rio, which has been armed and made her consort. The Jurujuba accompanied her into port. The Thetis still keeps out: she was left yesterday in sight of the privateer in full chase; but there is little chance of her coming up with her. This, and the further depredations made by the privateers to the southward, on the trade, has completely cramped this market for dry goods; particularly at Pernambuco. There has been an attempt made to try to seduce the foreign battalion there to revolt. A letter I have received from there of the 25th ult. runs thus: "*Nesta ha 3 dias descobriose que hum fulano Roma. que ha 2 mezes veio da America do Sul, estava comprando o batalhão de estrangeiros para fazer rusga, a finalo, comprador e os comprados estão presos.*" I understand the said delinquents are on board the Thetis to take their trial at Rio.

BUENOS AYRES.

The *Monte Video* gazette "Diario Semanario" is highly amusing. It complains of the immorality of Buenos Ayres. One would suppose that the emperor's subjects are getting very religious: we suspect their religion is like that of Mother Cole, in Foote's farce of the *Minor*. The above gazette contains some strictures upon Fournier, and the insults offered by different privateers to the British flag; evidently written with the intent to embroil the republic, if possible, with Great Britain. They speak of the brig *Concord*, of London, as detained by the *Sin Par* privateer, instead of the *Vencedor de Ituzaingo*: the last name is doubtless very galling to imperial ears, and for that reason they forbear to write it.

August 19th. Arrived American ship *Colombia*, *Lelar*, from *Monte Video*, on 9th instant, to *Daniel Gowland*, cargo brandy, yerba, paper, china goods, &c. She came in contact with the blockading squadron about half past 12 at night; blue lights were hoisted in all directions; and an incessant firing was kept up from the above hour until half-past 2 in the morning, on the rate intruder, who had thus broken in upon their slumbers. The *Colombia* on every tack met an opponent. Her danger was extreme; but darkness saved her, and she anchored near three fathom hole. Several schooners hailed the packet during the night; one of them giving her name as the *Sarandi*. At dawn of day the Brazilians were all under weigh; some schooners near the American ship; the latter slipped her cable, and made towards the inner roads. Fournier now got on board. It was a full river, and a stiff breeze from the S. E. Five schooners came over the bank, and when near the inner roads opened fire upon the *Colombia* and other vessels. It was returned from 25th of May, (the old ship having raised her crest again,) brig *Congress*, schooner 29th December, No. 11 gun-boat, and privateer schooner *Triunfo Argentino*. The firing continued until 8 o'clock; when the Brazilians, who had begun to hesitate, obeyed a signal of recall made from the corvette *Carioca*, and hurried away. One of their schooners must have received damage; splinters were seen flying about, and her fore-sail was shot through by a well-directed fire of grape-shot from No. 11 gun-boat. During the night several shots fell near the *Colombia*. In the inner roads a spent shot struck her bow; others passed between the masts, slightly damaging the rigging. The 25th of May had a boom shot away. No person was hurt in any of the vessels. The Brazilians evidently came with the intent to cut out the ship. They were so near, the whistling of the balls was distinctly heard, and the beach and azoteas were crowded to witness the divertissement.

An 18lb shot struck the wall of a house in the calle de la Plata, without injuring any person. It was doubtless intended as an experiment; and should the opportunity occur, will probably again be put in practice, as a specimen of Brazilian valour.

When, during our last war with France, Naples was occupied by French troops, Sir Sidney Smith, in the line-of-battle ship *Pompeé*, was solicited to bombard, he refused; observing that although, with his lower-deck guns, he could drive the French out, yet for that gratification he would not risk the life of a single defenceless inhabitant.

August 20th. Arrived British barque packet, *Lord Melville*, *Furz*, from *Falmouth* 25th of June, *Rio Janeiro*, 10th August, and *Monte Video* 19th. She made one day's stay at *Rio Janeiro*. Passengers from England *D. Manuel Gomez*, *D. Jorge Gomez*, *B. Bruno Gonzales*, *Mr. Carling*, *Mr. Redesdale* for Chile. Passengers from *Rio Janeiro*, *Madame Rosquellas*, *Señora Flanagin* and family, *Monsieur Redlien*. All have been landed at *Monte Video* except the ladies and *Mr. Redlien*. The former had permission to come direct to *Buenos Ayres*; but as the passport did not include the latter, he was obliged to leave the packet in the outer roads, and go on board the blockading squad-

ron; as was also *Captain Lewis*, who had acted as pilot to the packet from *Monte Video*.

The *Heron* British sloop of war had arrived at *Rio* from *Monte Video*; and packet *Duke of York* on the 6th instant. The latter sailed from this on the 24th of July.

A schooner, said to be under the Brazilian flag, has plundered two American vessels and an English brig, and flogged an American captain. The Macedonian has gone in pursuit. Nothing has been heard of the privateer that fired into the French frigate. Two French frigates and a schooner were at *Rio*: the rest had sailed. The British ship *Ganges* 84, admiral *Otway*, and the *Heron* 18, had sailed for *Bahia*. The *Thetis* 44 sailed on the 9th for *Monte Video*; but had not arrived on the 19th. The *Adventure* store-ship was the only British vessel of war at *Rio*. A Brazilian corvette, and some other vessels of war, were there. The British frigate *Forte* was at *Monte Video*, and the *Flora Guernsey* brig, with salt from the *Cape de Verdes*, arrived on the 18th.

The Brazilian corvette *Liberal*, brigs *Piraja*, *Caboclo*, and *Independencia ó Muerte*, were at *Monte Video*; the rest were cruising about the capes and the river.

The *Eclipse* packet from this 22nd April had not arrived at *Falmouth*. The *Zephyr*, *Church*, was appointed the next packet for *Buenos Ayres*.

The blockading squadron appear to be in three divisions. One off this port under *Norton*; one further down; and one near *Esenada*: the firing when the *Lord Melville* packet came up, was signal gun.

On the 21st instant three Brazilian schooners approached the packet *Lord Melville*; and one of them put on board *Monsieur Redlien*, who had been taken from thence; and he is now on shore. *Captain Lewis*, the pilot, is still withheld; on what plea we know not: it ought to be a very strong one to justify the taking an individual from under the protection of the British flag. The Brazilians sent another pilot on board the *Lord Melville*.

The late captain of the three-masted schooner (a portuguese) has been dismissed the service for his conduct in running away from the privateer general *Brandzen*: her present captain is an Englishman, late an officer of the frigate *Piranga*: he commanded her in the late rencontre with the *Sarandi*.

Don Pedro is reported to have said in *Rio* that when *Buenos Ayres* asks again for peace, she must do it on her knees. To a beautiful *Empress* the *Republic* might bend; but not to him.

Norton is soon expected to return to *Monte Video*. It was thought he was in one of the schooners that came so near the town on Sunday last; but that was not correct, and like a careful officer he evinced great joy at their safe return.

Captain Fournier has lately taken the command of the brig *Congress*; and fired a gun on the occasion of hoisting his flag.

Senor Balsuani, late a shopkeeper of this city, died on board the *Dove* packet, on her late voyage from *Buenos Ayres* to *Europe*.

We are told that *Montevideo* is very gay as it regards tertulias; but very dull in other respects. The *Montevideans* say it is all over with poor *Buenos Ayres*, she must submit.—*Nous verrons*.

A son of *Sir Robert Wilson*, who was in *Buenos Ayres* about two years since, is captain of a Brazilian schooner of war in this river. He had the command of the captured boat *Hijo de Julio* a few weeks since. His present employment is rather at variance with the political principles professed by his father.

A zumaca, supposed a prize, with hides and tallow, has been wrecked near cape St. Antonio. As she was laying high and dry upon the beach, it is thought the cargo will be saved.

The zumaca Felicidad, prize to the Presidente, Fisher prize-master, has been lost near Cape St. Mary's, crew saved.

One or two armed launches repeatedly make excursions from Colonia, for the purpose of picking up balandras, and the Hijo de Julio is fitting out at Monte Video upon the same errand: from the preparations making to counteract them, we trust their reign will be of short duration. A meeting of the proprietors of vessels trading to the Parana, &c., was held at the marine office, on 13th inst.; and some resolutions were entered into for the above purpose.

The privateer boat Ituzaingó has again sailed on a cruise.

It is reported that the commanders of Brazilian vessels have lately received fresh instructions from Rio Janeiro; that the Emperor complains of having a large fleet at an immense expense, positively effecting nothing; and that the officers are ordered to be more active and daring, even at the hazard of losing their vessels.

A letter from the Banda Oriental states that a brig had been sent into San Gregorio by a privateer boat, under suspicious circumstances; not having papers, flag, or crew on board; and that the government of the Banda Oriental had embargoed the brig, and ordered the cargo to be landed.

The following prizes arrived on 20th instant at the Salado. Schooner brig Uadora, with flour, Hepper prize-master, prize to the privateer General Mancilla; a zumaca with rice, prize to the Bonarense; a ditto with dry goods and powder, prize to the brig Presidenta, captain Beazley.—A zumaca prize to the Presidenta, with dry goods, Randall prize master, has been burned below the Salado; and two more to the same privateer have been lost on the coast: The Presidenta had taken and destroyed a number of vessels, and was left cruising off Bahia.

On 20th instant no Brazilians were in sight of the Salado.

August 21th sailed American brig St. Thomas, Saville, for Havannah.

A prize zumaca to the Sin Par, with Brazil wood, arrived at the Salado on the 19th instant. The crew thinking the port blockaded, had at first left her, and got on shore. Another prize zumaca was aground lower down the coast: particulars unknown.

August 18th, sailed several small craft for the Parana and Banda Oriental, under convoy of No. 7 gun-boat and schooner of war 18th January. Many military officers, lately on furlough, took their passage in the above vessels, to rejoin the army.

August 20. Arrived prize schooner Maria Isabel, captured by the General Mancilla privateer, Wilder, on 9th instant, near Rio Grande: cargo 40 bales of cotton, 25 cases of sugar, 720 rolls of tobacco, 20 barrels of ditto, some sweet-meats, and various other articles, the gross value more than 150,000 dollars; on 8th instant the privateer captured a schooner brig with flour, and was left in chase of a ship.

Arrived prize zumaca Maria Luisa, with timber from the Salado. She was taken some time since by the General Mancilla. Saw

a brig and a zumaca, supposed prizes, going towards the Salado on the morning of the 19th instant, and no Brazilians in sight! Both the above passed the blockading squadron without impediment: they were probably reposing from the fatigues of the preceding night.

August 22nd. Arrived national schooner Sarandi, Admiral Brown, captain Antonio José Ribelo (acting) and ditto 11th June, captain Hidalgo, from Martin Garcia.

On the morning of the 23rd instant, the schooner of war 11th June, with a balandra in tow, was observed under sail between Point Quilmes and the Boca of Riachuelo, beating against a head wind towards the inner roads. Six Brazilian schooners of war were standing towards her; and having a fair wind they soon came near, and commenced firing. The 11th of June returned the fire, despatched the balandra towards the inner roads, and made all sail away, but got aground. The Brazilians continued firing without the least effect. The gun-boat No. 11 left the inner roads to assist, having on board captains Fournier and Granville, and boldly advanced towards the foe, who at that time were standing away, and a heavy sailing schooner gun-boat had nearly been cut off. Upon which the Brazilians being to windward bore down again, and one of their large fast-sailing schooners came up "hand over hand" with No. 11 gun-boat: in fact we trembled for her fate, especially when within a few yards the schooner fired into the gun-boat with grape and round shot. The latter could not return it, as her gun being fixed at the bows she would have been obliged to tack in order to fire. We thought it was all over with the gun-boat, and that such a fire, when in a manner close alongside, must have killed or wounded the greater part of the men; but she gallantly kept her way. The Brazilian getting into shallow water, bore up and stood off, and the gun-boat anchored near to schooner 11th of June. Admiral Brown was at his quinta; but the news of the fray reached him, and about 9 in the morning he passed the beach in plain dress on horseback. George had his whale-boat ready, and steered the admiral on board the schooner 11th of June, (craft was busy round the latter to lighten her.) The Brazilians came down again, apparently with the determination to destroy the schooner aground and the little gun-boat. The latter was now commanded by captain Granville, Fournier having gone ashore. A heavy schooner took a position, and anchored; but she received such a well-directed fire as obliged her to "up anchor," and run off. Five of the Brazilian schooners kept up an incessant fire. We could see the shots: some falling short, others on the shore eastward of the boca, and amongst the casta. This continued until 12 clock; when they finally withdrew, and we think with damage. No. 11 gun-boat, when she first went out, fired some excellent shots at one of the schooners, and likewise after she had anchored. The gun of 11th June, when brought to bear, was pointed by Admiral Brown himself, and we know that our hero has a "good eye" in that department of his profession. Not a man has been hurt in either of the two national vessels. The fore-sail of 11th June had a shot through it, and that constitutes all the damage sustained. The rest of the Brazilian fire was expended on "airy nothing."

The schooners Sarandi and 29th December, for want of water, could not quit the inner roads: the latter, in the afternoon, sailed to join the two combatants. The Brazilians are getting too presuming; it is a sort of insult to the town. Some of the squadron from Martin Garcia may soon teach them to be more circumspect; at present the small craft of the blockading squadron are more mischievous than the larger vessels.

The circumstance which led to the above rencontre is this: A balandra, employed to take out cargo from the prize schooner Maria Isabel, and having on board a valuable portion of it, was run away with on the night of 22nd instant, and fell in with schooner 11th June, on her passage from Martin Garcia. The pursuit led the schooner to the southward of the port. Three men and the patron unfortunately escaped during the night in the balandra's boat; 2 were taken, and we hear their depositions implicate others on shore.

When the Brazilian schooner got close to No. 11 gun-boat,

Fournier ordered every one to lie down except the man at the helm; and by that means escaped the schooner's fire.

Most of us recollect the ridicule with which the military dandies were assailed in London a few years since; yet men apparently so effeminate were ever first in a storming party, or wherever danger was to be found. "It is impertinently warm in the sun," was a saying at Portsmouth for many months after the embarkation of a division of foot-guards for Spain. The words were actually used by a young foot-guard officer.

When the republican army was embarking from the beach last year, their officers attired in all the fashion of this city, many satirical observations passed. Their brave conduct against the foe has silenced these assailants.

London had her theatrical dandies: persons who rarely addressed each other without bringing in some quotation. As, on taking wine, "The king drinks to Hamlet;" a knock at the door, "Open locks, whoever knocks;" acknowledging a fault, "I do confess the cape," (vide tailor in Catherine and Petruccio); a lady drops her handkerchief or fan—presented to her with; "A bowl of cream for your catholic majesty."

Sergeant-major of Artillery D. José Arenales, has been named military commandant of Ensenada.

Lieutenant-colonel D. Bernardo Castañon, lieutenant-colonel D. Manuel Corbalan, and Sergeant-major D. José Alvarez have been named-aides-de-camp to his Excellency the Governor of the province.

THEATRE.

The clouds which lately threatened our operatic establishment have for the present dispersed, by Señor Rosquellas consenting to continue at the Theatre until December next; and considering the little time he has to spare from his other vocations, the musical world is under some obligations to him. We have felt considerable pride at having an opera in this city, and judging from the crowded audiences on opera nights, it must have been profitable to the Theatre: to be deprived of it at this moment would have been "the most unkindest cut of all." The opera of Othello was represented on Wednesday evening at double prices to a full and brilliant audience. General Alvear and his lady were in the boxes, Rosquellas was applauded on his entrée; and he really performed the noble deceived Moor admirably well. The duet with Iago was given with great effect. Doña Angela Tani made the last act very interesting; particularly in the scene on hearing the Gondolieri, the air accompanying herself on the piano, and the air she sings kneeling. There are parts of the opera very tedious, especially the first act. We read that Rossini objected to the Italian translation, or rather caricatura, of Othello. The author, Marquis Berio, otherwise an amiable man, and moving in the best society of Naples, persisted in maintaining that Shakspeare was a barbarian, and that it was absolutely necessary to correct him. Rossini yielded, but with a groan; and has often been heard to say that the translation of Shakspeare's Othello by Letourneur froze up his blood (mi gelava el sangue.)

PRICE OF SPECIE.

Doubloons, 62 to 63 dollars each.
 Spanish Dollars, 250 per cent premium.
 Gold in bars, 32 rs. per quilate
 Silver in bars, 21 rs. per dinero.
 Exchange on England, 11d per dollar.
 Ditto on Rio Janeiro, 833 rees currency per dollar.
 Ditto on Montevideo, 214 do. de.

THE AMERICAN.

Circumstances having occurred which prevent the further publication of this journal, the subscribers to it are respectfully informed that an arrangement has been made with the

editors of the *British Packet*, for the delivering of that paper to them in its stead, for the three numbers which are lacking to complete the quarter's subscription.

The editors of the *American*, at the same time, beg leave to return their most unfeigned thanks to those gentlemen who favoured them with their patronage, and hope that the premature disappearance of their journal will not be attributed to negligence or indifference on their part.

BRITISH THEATRICAL FUND,

For the relief of the wounded and widows of the national squadron.

At a meeting of the Committee on the 11th of August, (the anniversary of the last night of performance,) the accounts were examined, and approved as correct; a vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Vincent and Mr. Love, for their attention in the distribution of the funds; and it was resolved to insert the accounts, &c., in the *British Packet* and *Gaceta Mercantil*.

Amount of fund	ds.	1457	3
Donation of an English gentleman.....		133	0
Premium given by the government.....		140	0
Interest.....		88	5
		1819	0
Money distributed.....		775	0
In hand.....		28	0
		803	0
	Ds.	1016	0

ADVERTISEMENTS.

This day is published, price 4 rials, an Essay on the CHRISTIAN SABBATH: being the substance of two Discourses delivered in the Protestant Episcopal Chapel of Buenos Ayres. By John Armstrong, B. A. Sold at No. 43 Calle del Peru.

PROTESTANT WORSHIP.

The friends of religious instruction in Buenos Ayres, are respectfully informed that the *Presbyterian meeting* formerly held in a back room of the house No. 17 calle del Peru, has been transferred to the large sala in the same house, on the left of the first patio: the room formerly occupied having been found too small to accommodate the congregation. Efforts have been made to render the sala comfortable. All who are disposed to unite for religious worship with those who assemble there, are cordially invited to attend on the Sabbath at 11 A. M. and 7 P. M. The Sabbath school is continued as usual in the same house.

JOHN G. FAY,

PAINTER AND PAPER-HANGER,

Begs to inform the public that he has removed his store to No. 25 calle de la Victoria—All kinds of furniture painted.

Should any of our subscribers not receive their numbers regularly it will be immediately rectified by addressing the Editors.