

THE
British Packet,
AND
ARGENTINE NEWS.

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No. 57.) BUENOS AYRES, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 1827. (Vol. 2.)

BUENOS AYRES.

The union of the provinces has been the grand desideratum of the men now in power; it has, besides, been the guarantee of their elevation; and many persons of good faith, sincerely attached to those who have disappeared from the theatre of affairs, saluted amicably the men who replaced them, because from them they expected a reconciliation among the members of this great family.

How far these hopes have been realized it is not for us to say: suffice it to observe, that since the last changes time enough has elapsed for receiving those assurances of friendship, and indications of affection, which we search in vain for in the periodicals of this capital. This grievous disappointment has convinced us that the old enmity of the provinces had its birth, not in the persons or the laws they have looked on with such implacable antipathy; but from the advantages with which Nature and circumstances have favoured this metropolis, and which it has known how to foment and to increase in the midst of the most imminent perils,

.....Of most disastrous chances,
Of moving accidents by flood and field.

An unpardonable sentiment as it regards individuals, and inconceivable when treating of a mass; a sentiment whose origin cannot be sought for in any probable event or in any rational idea; a sentiment, in short, which places an insuperable barrier in the way of all improvement, of all consolidation.

Yes: Buenos Ayres is richer than you are, we would say to these short-sighted men: come, and participate in her riches; and bring her in exchange that which Nature has lavished on you, and which perishes in your inactive hands: Buenos Ayres is wiser than you: come, and profit by her wisdom. Buenos Ayres has a river which places her in communication with civilized Europe: come, and drink from the same source the enjoyments of life, the advantages of illustration, and the blessings of commerce. Buenos Ayres, in short, presents you the pleasing picture of security in the midst of an obstinate war; of order in the midst of civil confusion; of obedience to the authorities in the midst of repeated changes: imitate her example, let her conduct be your guide, and you will gather the same fruits. You tell us of immense distances, of geographical obstacles, of the heterogeneousness of men and principles. In the time of the vice-roys the drama of government marched with all the unities prescribed by Aristotle, of time, of action, of place and of interest. Why should the dramatic *nœud* be now more irregular than the most extravagant comedy of Lope de Vega? For the vice-roys there was neither distance, nor mountains, nor pampas, nor

nor difference of men nor of places. And all these evils spring so readily to life in the regimen of liberty! Liberty, which ought to unite, is that which separates! Liberty, which ought to vivify, serves only to destroy! These are not the fruits generally gathered from this beneficent tree.

If the provinces obstinately continue their separation, nakedness, poverty, ignorance, and isolation is the fate reserved for them. To league themselves against Buenos Ayres, is to enter into a league against their own interests;

.....shameful is this league;
.....cancelling your fame;
Blotting your names from books of memory;
Undoing all as all had never been.

OFFICIAL DOCUMENT.

PRIVATEERS.

Buenos Aires, September 4, 1827.

Notwithstanding the government having taken every precaution to repress the abuses which might result from the privateers authorized to cruise in defence of the honour and independence of the republic, the authorities have been informed of excesses committed by the small vessels that cruise in the River Plate, not only against the commerce of the country, but also against the flag of friendly and neutral nations. In consequence, with the object of preventing these evils, and giving at the same time a greater stimulus to the vessels of the national squadron operating in the river, the Governor and Captain General of the province of Buenos Aires, charged, by the law of the 27th of August last of the Honorable Sala of Representatives, with the direction of the war, has decreed:

Art. 1. No privateer license shall in future be granted for any vessel measuring less than 25 tons.

2. Every individual who may have received a privateer license for vessels of less tonnage than is expressed in the preceding article, shall return it to the ministry of marine within the following time from the date of this decree: 1st. Those now in the ports of this province, within fifteen days; 2nd. Those within the line N. E. from Point Lara to Montevideo, within thirty days; 3rd. Those without the line mentioned in the preceding paragraph, within sixty days.

3. The securities given shall be held responsible for the fulfilment of the preceding article, and those who shall not present themselves within the time fixed, shall be judged with all the rigour of the laws, according to the greater or less culpability that shall appear in the delay.

4. The minister secretary of war and marine is charged with the execution of this decree; communicating it to all whom it may concern, &c.

DORRIGO.
Juan Ramon Balcarce.

By a decree of the 28th August, the government has ordained the sending commissioners into the different provinces to endeavour to effect a reconciliation between them; and to induce them to cooperate unanimously in bringing the war to an honourable conclusion. The commissioners have orders, in traversing the province of Cordoba, to see the authorities of that province, to inform them of the objects of their mission, and that the government of Buenos Ayres is in treaty with their envoy D. F. I. Bustos.

"The proudest peer in the realm shall not wear a head on his shoulders, unless he pay me tribute.—Jack Cade, in KING HENRY VI."

The following letter from Quiroga to the governor of Tucuman is written so much in the above style, that we cannot refuse it a place in our columns.

Tucuman, 24 July, 1827.

"I have learnt from several members of the honorable junta that you have given the people to understand they ought not to contribute anything towards the 24,000 dollars which I claimed as a part of the expense occasioned me by the unjust war declared against me by this province, by the organ of its representatives; and that, with this motive, some who had subscribed have retracted; from which it results that your Excellency, with your active genius, has been able, at little expense, to oppose yourself to my being reimbursed the small part I ask of the great expense and prejudice I have suffered; but, by the living God, if I am not satisfied before two o'clock in the day, I will pay myself, not the sum of 24,000 dollars, but all the expense I have been at and all the losses I have suffered in my affairs. Take care, therefore; let there be no equivocating: generosity has its limits: and I am not wanting in a disposition to punish most exemplarily the pride and boldness of this rebel country, which contemns the generous forbearance with which it has been treated, although not meriting the least consideration.

You may, if you deem it convenient, make this known to the junta; with the intimation that if the before-mentioned hour pass without my having received the small sum I ask, I shall immediately commence letting them feel the ravages of war.

God keep your Excellency many years.

Juan Facundo Quiroga.

Particulars of the seizure of the British brig Ann, and her recapture.

Monte Video, August 27, 1827.

"On Saturday last an English brig arrived in sight off Monte Video, but was obliged by a calm to anchor off Bold Point, 4 or 5 miles to the eastward. The next morning it was reported in Monte Video that she had been boarded by a suspicious boat. In the afternoon it was learnt that the brig had been carried into Santa Rosa Bay by the boat in question, to be plundered. As soon as these particulars were made known to the captain of H. M. S. Forte, he despatched two armed boats to the Santa Rosa Bay. On the boats coming up to the brig, they were hailed: "What boats are those?" Which was answered: "English!" Upon which a volley of musketry was fired at them from the brig. The boats on this pushed alongside, and boarded the vessel. Three of the pirates were wounded, and 14 surrendered. The brig proved to be the Ann, from Liverpool, with a general cargo of merchandize, bound to Monte Video. The pirates had commenced to lade a launch with the most valuable part of the cargo; opening every package to ascertain its value first. They had destroyed the ship's papers and letters, and by the confession of one of the pirates, an Englishman, it appears to have been intended to have disposed of the crew, and to have sent the brig to Rio Negro as a Brazilian vessel. The commander of the pirates is a man called Papé Onzas. He is believed to have a commission from Buenos Aires. He sailed from Santa Lucia on Saturday night, with 20 men in an armed launch. He and the rest of the crew are now on board B. M. S. Forte."

The above details need no-colouring of ours to depict the wickedness of the act. The wretched perpetrators are in hands that will inflict justice, tempered, no doubt (should any mitigating circumstances appear) with mercy.

Such occurrences are to us subjects of real regret. They disgrace the flag of the Republic, and let loose the malignant revivings of its enemies. In Montevideo, Rio Janeiro, and other places, the affair will be set forth with exaggerations commensurate to the losses which Brazilian commerce has sustained from privateers; and joyfully echoed by all those of the emperor's subjects who see nothing in privateering but piracy.

The authorities of Buenos Aires ought to be very careful to whom they grant commissions. The lives and property of neutrals are at hazard, and the government itself will become great losers by the indemnification which will most certainly be demanded. The late events we trust will be a warning; and, indeed, the decree recalling privateers under a certain tonnage evinces an anxiety to prevent a repetition of such crimes; but we consider the character of the commander of more importance than the size of the vessel. In our opinion armed boats, under proper regulations, should be encouraged. They might be of great annoyance to the Brazilian trade in this river, particularly with Colonia.

The Captain of the British brig Concord has arrived in Buenos Aires: he came by way of Patagonia; having been sent to that port in the detained British brig Huskisson. He was several weeks on board the privateer Vencedor de Ituzaiugo. The particulars of the detention of the brig Concord, and her separation from the privateer during a squall, we detailed in No. 42 of the British Packet.

Rumours are in circulation that negotiations for peace are going on, founded, it is said, on letters from Rio Janeiro, which state that the government is inclined to treat on the basis of the Banda Oriental being erected into a free and independent state. The evident determination of this Republic to continue the war, the offers of a loan, &c., may eventually lead to peace; but at present it is our firm opinion that no negotiations are in train.

We call the attention of our readers to an advertisement inserted in our number of this day, for a meeting on Monday night at the house of J. P. Robertson, Esq. We hear that its object is, by a course of useful and amusing studies, to give the British and other residents in Buenos Ayres an opportunity of employing advantageously their leisure time. We sincerely hope the projectors of this measure will attain their object.

The following Brazilian vessels are at present stationed in this river.

Frigates. Piranga, admiral Pintos Guedez, captain Hayden; Emperatriz, captain Prytz; Isabel, captain Beaurepaire.

Corvettes. Carioca, captain Norton; Liberal; Macaico; the latter missing.

Brigs. 29th of August; Piraja; Maranhão, captain Anderson; Independencia ó Morto, captain Clare; Rio da Prata, captain January; Caboclo, captain Ingles, (a Scotch West Indian.)

Schooners. Three-masted schooner, captain Rose; Maria Teresa, 14 guns, captain Mackintosh, lately captured by Brown, and afterwards got into Monte Video; the Conception, captain Wilson, a son of Sir Robert Wilson; and the Rio schooner, commanded by a Frenchman; the lugger boat Hijo de Julio, purchased by the Government at Monte Video, is commanded by Somerville, a native of Lancashire. There are several other schooners attached to the squadron. Thompson, late captain of the schooner Conception, is first Lieutenant of the Caboclo. On board the above squadron are a number of English and North Americans, including captains, lieutenants, petty officers, doc-

tors, &c., with not even the plea of liberty to fight for; and lending their assistance to wrest that blessing from others. The service of the emperor yields good pay, epaulets, crosses, and large cocked hats: our republic is somewhat poor, epaulets and crosses scarce, and cocked hats out of fashion. The Anglo-Brazilian officers console themselves for present sneers, and reproaches hereafter by calling us demagogues, anachivists, &c.; and say that a royal government in the neighbourhood is necessary to preserve the king's peace. The best apology these gentlemen could make would be the want of employment in their own country; or, as captain Rolando says: "The wars are ended, boy." "I am glad of that, Sir." "You should be sorry if you loved your master. I am poor; so poor that I can but leanly cater for myself, much less provide for thee."

On the 31st ult. sailed from Martin Garcia schooner of war Sarandi, Admiral Brown, captain A. J. Ribeiro; do. Ninth of February, captain Rosales; do. Maldonado, captain Toll; do. Eleventh of June, captain Hidalgo; No. 6 gun-boat, captain Hogden; the Eleventh of June carried away her top-mast and put back; and No. 6 gun-boat did not succeed in getting out. The other three vessels proceeded on their cruise. Below Colonia they took the schooners Hermosa Luisa and Santa Ana. In re-passing Colonia, the Sarandi with one of the prizes in tow, five gun-boats came out, having the weather gage; and began a distant cannonade, which was not returned until the prizes had passed the port, and been despatched for Buenos Ayres. The Sarandi then, under all sail and sweeps, with the other two schooners, turned upon their opponents, who quickly ran into port. The Sarandi, on one occasion, stood close in to Colonia, and fired. Some shots from the batteries passed over her without doing her any mischief. The blockading squadron were at a distance, making efforts to reach the scene of action.

On 3rd instant the national vessels anchored off Martin Garcia. The captain of the Sarandi came to Buenos Ayres with the prizes, and returned immediately. The prisoners report that a privateer, stated to be the Estrella del Sol, has been taken between Saint Catherine's and Rio Grande, after a sharp action with a schooner of war. This privateer was formerly a lighter, and called the Dulceina; but she was such a miserable vessel, that few would employ her even in that capacity. Her outfit cost a mere trifle.

Sept. 2. Arrived zumaca San Buenaventura, from Monte Video, bound to Santa-Fé. She was detained and sent in by the squadron at Martin Garcia.

Arrived No. 11 gun-boat, Castellis, from Martin Garcia, and balandra from Monte Video with a general cargo.

Arrived prize schooner Hermosa Luisa, and do. do. Santa Ana, patron Pedro Garcia, cargos tobacco, yerba, paper, sugar, &c., and stated to be worth 300,000 dollars. The above prizes were taken by three schooners of Admiral Brown's squadron, which had left Martin Garcia, under the orders of the admiral, on a cruise.

A number of small craft variously laden have arrived from the Paraná, Uruguay, &c. One or two Brazilian armed launches have been seen to the northward, but we do not think they have had much success in their operations. In the afternoon of 2nd instant a cannonade was heard in the direction of Colonia; and from the state of the atmosphere we could (with the telescope) distinctly see that town, and several vessels under sail in front of it. The blockading squadron was observed steering towards Colonia; and as the above objects were all at the same time perceptible, it afforded a most beautiful sight.

The national brig of war Congress, captain Fournier, left the inner roads, and anchored in three-fathom hole in the morning of yesterday. At eleven o'clock eight sail of Brazilian; viz., corvette Carioca, two brigs, and five schooners, were under sail to reconnoitry; upon which two gun-boats (Nos. 1 and 11), schooner of war Uruguay, and privateer Vengadora Argentina, proceeded towards the Congress. The latter had got under weigh, and grounded

almos immediately afterwards. The Carioca in the outer roads hauled her wind, and anchored; the two brigs advanced somewhat further, and then tacked; the five schooners stood towards their opponents, and when within about four gun-shots distance began to fire; which folly, to the surprise of every one on shore, was copied by the Uruguay national schooner.—The national vessels having anchored near the Congress; the Brazilian schooners made a dead halt. They seemed in a manner trying to push each other on, and it was evident the reception they met with in their late visits had made them cautious. They kept up a cannonade, shots falling short, which was returned in some degree by the national vessels; and at half-past three in the afternoon the Brazilians finally withdrew, and we dare assert that no damage was done on either side. These bloodless combats afford us some amusement on shore in the present comparatively dull times. Captain Grauville, on the appearance of the Brazilians, left the shore, and went on board one of the national vessels.

Accounts from the brig privateer General Brandzen state her to have destroyed 7 Brazilian vessels; some of them had cargo on board, but not thought of sufficient value to send in.

We have received accounts from the Salado to the 5th inst. There had not been any arrivals lately, and no Brazilian vessels were in sight.

Amongst the *on dits* of the day is that the blockade is to be confined to the port of Buenos Aires, leaving the other ports of the Republic free. This is indeed "important if true."

The Morning Herald London newspaper is violently opposed to Mr. Canning and the ministry. The praise bestowed on Mr. C. has provoked some severe retorts. In a work called "Character of Mr. Canning," published four years since, the following observations occur:—"Mr. Canning was the cleverest boy at Eton: he is perhaps, the cleverest man in the House of Commons. He is a mere House of Commons man; and since he was transferred there from college appears never to have seen or thought of any other place. He may be said to have passed his life in making, and learning to make, speeches; and these speeches have a showy Asiatic redundancy. Beneath the broad and gilded chandelier that throws its light upon "the nation's great divan," Mr. Canning piles the lofty harangue, high over-arched with metaphor, dazzling with epithets, sparkling with jests: take it out of doors; examine it by the light of common sense; and it is no more than a string of sophisms. There is, notwithstanding, a facility, a brilliancy, and an elegance, in Mr. Canning's general style, always graceful and never abrupt.

The London Quarterly Review for June 1827, in an article entitled Cornish mining in America, has indulged pretty freely in ridicule of the mining associations: we give the following extract as a sample.

"One of the companies considered that, in order to guard their property, no person could be better than an officer of the guards; other directors resolved, that as engines were to be sent out, it would be well to procure officers from the engineers: many selected officers from the artillery, because they heard that gunpowder was to be required for the mines; several determined that for hauling up ores, water, &c., from the depths of transatlantic mountains officers of His Majesty's navy would be singularly serviceable; and one company, whose mines were filled with water and widely separated one from another, concluded that to encounter difficulties both by land and water was indisputably the province of an officer of marines. However, although they knew nothing, the shareholders, if possible, knew less; and the whole system being that of the blind leading the blind, these forlorn hope commissioners took their leave, and started for the New World.

"Admitting that mining in the River Plate is a lottery in which prizes are to be gained, who are the individuals most likely to obtain them? without hesitation we reply, the natives of the country

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They have already shown their superior intelligence and ability by inducing us to make expensive purchases which we have since found it necessary to abandon: they possess great practical experience and local knowledge, and they can themselves supply their mines with materials at a cheap rate; they understand the mode of governing, rewarding, punishing, and watching the Indian labourers, they are acquainted with the laws, good and bad, of their own country; they have the natural good-will of the government and country in their favour. If a company of wealthy foreigners, ignorant or not, were to land in England with men and machinery, were to possess themselves of our Cornish mines, and set about working these, would they succeed? would they carry off the prize? to abandon a bad undertaking is one of the first axioms among miners, and that when the simplest Cornishman has taken a "pitch" which ceases to be kindly, he abandons his work and pays his forfeit.

The review likewise contains part of a ballad, written by William Simmons, of Redruth Highway, one of the individuals of the Famatina mining company. We insert some detached verses.

"Come all my friends and neighbours round give ear while I disclose,
The dangers of a foreign voyage in which we was exposed;
It's of a mining company who left their native shore,
And sailed for South America in search of mineral ore.

We all embarked at Falmouth port, our voyage for to proceed,
In the good ship *marquis of anglsea* a handsom ship indeed,
Then on our voyage we did proceed, i'm sorry to relate,
We was drove on a bank of sand that's in the river plate.

Expecting of a gale of wind to blow from the Southwest;
The only means we had to try was to cut down our mast;
Just at this time a schooner came our wants for to relieve,
Part of our cargo for to save though they was portugees:

One of the Cornish miners wrote to his brother in Cornwall:
"You have no idea, Bill, how thirsty this hot dry country do
make us."

September 8th.

Arrived this morning, and anchored near the Recoleta, a Sardinian brig.

A large schooner, apparently of war, came into the inner roads this morning. She had the Brazilian flag hoisted, which she lowered. The brig Congress having fired two shots at her. She turns out to be a deserter from the Brazilian squadron, rose upon by the crew, and brought in. She is called the *María Teresa*, of 14 guns, captain Mackintosh, lately captured by Brown. This is more than amends for the two gun-boats of ours ran away. Captain Mackintosh and his officers have been brought ashore, and lodged in the policia.

THEATRE.

A very full house was attracted on Monday evening, for the benefit of *Da. Antonia Montes de Oca*. It was the reappearance of the señora *Trinidad Guevara*, after a long absence. She was greeted upon her *entrée* with loud applause, and bouquets of flowers were thrown from the cazueta on the stage. The character she personated was that of *Mrs. Haller*, in the *Stranger*. Her visit to the provinces we do not think has improved her acting. She has, it is true, the same dulcet plaintive voice; but the constant application of the pocket handkerchief to the eyes almost at every sentence, and keeping it in hand "prepared for woe," is not according to Nature. Some scenes she made very interesting, especially the melancholy gaze at her child, as if to trace the father's features, and indulge a recollection of former happier times. In person *Daña Trinidad* seems thinner than hertofore. Her return will be a great addition to the dramatic corps. *Yelarde* was the *Stranger*. He had evidently studied the character; but it was inferior to *Ambrosio Morante*. The latter actor always performed it with great feeling, although his figure was much against him. The play of the *Stranger* has been censured by the rigid moralists of our own country. The tears that streamed from the eyes of many a fair creature during the performance of Monday evening evinced at least that the scenes depicted had reached the heart.

The opera of *Don Giovanni* was performed on Wednesday night. Mozart's music is so highly wrought, that unless every part is well sustained, the effect is in a manner lost. The character of *Elvira* certainly suffered in the hands of señora *Ricciolini*; her voice is not capable of giving effect to the beautiful music allotted to the part; and as the wife of *Don Giovanni* we have a right to suppose that even in singing she should excel, in

order to fix the wavering fancy of such a man in the ties of matrimony. *Doña Angela Tani* warbled with infinite pathos, and señora *Vacani* sang and played the part of *Zerlina* with a great deal of archness. *Rosquillas* and *Vacani* are quite at home as the *Don* and *Leporelo*. The opera went off rather dull; perhaps the oppressive heat of the weather had some effect on the feelings of the audience.

The opera of the *Barber of Seville* will be performed on Monday, for the benefit of our favorite *Vacani*.

PRICE OF SPECIE.

Doublings, 64 to 66 dollars each.
Spanish Dollars, 285 per cent premium.
Gold in bars, 22 rs. per quilate.
Silver in bars, 20 rs. per dinero.
Exchange on England, 12½ to 13d per dollar.
Ditto on Rio Janeiro, 333 rees currency per dollar (nominal).
Ditto on Monte Video, 270 do. do.

Considerable transactions have taken place in doublings during the week, and they have been done as high as 75. Rumours of a negotiation for peace caused the decline in price.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

We regret that our limits do not permit the insertion of the Review of the *Essay on the Christian Sabbath*. It will be returned to the writer on applying at the printing office.

GLASGOW's communication has been received.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

SAVING BANK.

State of its funds on the 31st August 1827.

The net deposits in the names of the respective Patrons are as follows.

	Ps.	Rs.
Mr. Thomas Barton.....	17,645	4
Dn. Manuel Galup.....	10,822	5
Dn. Marcos Saubidet.....	10,478	
Mr. Henry Hoker.....	9,306	2
Dn. José Maria Romero.....	6,324	4
Dn. Damian de Castro.....	6,029	2
Dn. Juan Almcira.....	5,407	4
Rob. Kortright, Esq. Consul U. S.....	5,210	
Dn. Felix Ignacio Frias.....	3,721	6
Dn. Sebastian Lezica.....	3,576	3
Richard F Pousset, Esq. H. B. M. V. C.....	2,745	
Dn. Cirilo Estanislao Guray.....	2,709	6
Dn. Leon Bozo.....	2,668	7
Dn. José Maria de las Carreras.....	1,012	3
Mr. Stepheu Puddicomb.....	757	0
Dn. Roque del Sar.....	423	1
Dn. Antonio de las Cagigas.....	334	3
Dn. José Antonio Capdevila.....	280	4
Mr. Henry Gilbert.....	250	
Mons. Jean Pierre Varagot.....	203	6
Dn. Narciso Martinez.....	200	
Dn. Bernardo de Ocampo.....	192	4
Dn. Floro Zamudio.....	185	
Dn. Juan Banegas.....	105	4
Dn. Manuel de Aguirre.....	13	7
Minors.....	7,236	3½
British theatrical fund.....	955	
Orphans.....	227	1
	99,024	5½
Interest fund.....	17,831	6
Excess of Government allowance for expenses.....	203	1½

Total net receipt..... 117,058 5

Investment of the above one hundred and seventeen thousand and fifty eight dollars, five reals.

In Mortgages.....66,020

In bills of exchange.....41,038 5

In bank shares.....10,000

117,058 5

JAMES WILDE.

ADVERTISEMENT.

A desire to supply the want, in this city, of those public and popular institutions, which elsewhere bring within the reach of all classes of the community the most conspicuous truths of moral and exact science, having led a few individuals to consider, generally, the best means of promoting such objects here, it is requested that all persons desirous of co-operating for this purpose will meet at Mr. Robertson's house, No. 126 calle de la *Biblioteca*, on the evening of Monday, the 10th of september, at 6 o'clock.

It is especially requested that the young gentlemen of the mercantile offices in town will attend, whose business avocations, without extinguishing the love of science, may have superseded their systematic investigation of its truths.

It is not proposed, in the first instance, that any expense should be incurred; and it is hoped that the present notice will be considered a sufficient invitation to all persons interested in the promotion of useful knowledge, to attend the meeting.

State Printing-office, Calle de la *Biblioteca*, No. 89.