

British Packet,

AND ARGENTINE NEWS.

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No. 94.]

BUENOS AYRES, SATURDAY, MAY 24, 1828.

[Vol. 2.

BUENOS AYRES.

REPUBLICAN ARMY.—CAMPAIGN OF 1828.

SIXTH BULLETIN.

April 1st.—Colonel Olivera writes that on the 20th ult. he had sent a party of men to the frontiers, under the command of Captain Eufemio Insaurraga, who has brought away some artillery and military stores from the fort of San Miguel.

To the 5th a few deserters came in, and Colonel Suarez marched with some cavalry, as before published.

6th.—Two soldiers from the Republican Army had straggled from the lines to gather fruit, and were made prisoners: they were sent back this day by Colonel Bentos Gonzales de Silva, of the regiment No. 39, by order of the Commander in Chief of the Imperial Army. The Commander in Chief of the Republican Army ordered these prisoners to be taken back again, well knowing that it was not good faith that made General Lecor act thus, but his accustomed trickery and intrigue. He wants to hold out the idea of an armistice, and that is the reason why he manœuvres with such apparent delicacy. Such armistice has never existed, and not even been proposed by the General of the Imperial Army. The conduct and operations of the Republican Army ought to have undeceived him from an error so remarkable, but it is his interest to persuade his troops of its reality. He however carries this indiscretion so far as to think he can persuade an army which is well aware of its duties in that case, and also what it ought to perform in the actual state of war in which it finds itself, as it has constantly demonstrated. The conduct of the army has been conformable to these principles. Hostilities neither have nor will cease until a suspension is regularly communicated by the Government, upon whom it depends.

Six men and a sergeant having gone this day to reconnoitre upon the other side of the Tello, met with three officers of the enemy's army taking away a German who had endeavoured to desert to us, and as they would not deliver him up or surrender, they were killed, as also two soldiers who came to their aid. The German was conducted to the encampment of Latorre's division.

Until the 10th nothing of moment occurred. On that day came the letter from General Lecor to General Lavalleja respecting the armistice: and the Brazilian party of soldiers who presented themselves at the post of Captain Barreto, stating they had orders to refrain from hostilities, and were

made prisoners: all of which appeared in *British Packet* No. 90. Two prisoners were brought in: one of them was standard bearer to the regiment Lunarejo. They were taken by Ensign Juan Francisco Mena on the other side of the Yaguaron.

13.—Lieutenant Berdun had an affair with an enemy's party of 20 men, who were rambling near the Cerros del Quilombo, killed some men, and took 40 horses, with some saddles.—[Then follows a detail of the attempt made on the 15th by a Brazilian division, to surprise the Republican encampment, and published in our No. 92.]—Advices were received from the Commodore of the flotilla on the Lake Mini, stating that, having sent Lieutenant Wac to the estancia of Ramirez, with the launch *Convention*, having 7 soldiers and 7 sailors, they had been overtaken upon their return by a storm, came to anchor, and sent the soldiers on shore to dry their arms and ammunition. The lieutenant remained on board with 5 of the 7 sailors; these surprised, and fired upon him without effect; the soldiers on shore seeing this, fired a volley, by which they killed 4 of the mutineers; the remainder threw the officer overboard, and ran away with the launch. One of the sailors who was on shore plunged into the water, and saved the officer, this officer arrived some days afterwards, with the rest of the crew, at the Barra de Sabollati, where the *escuadrilla* were stationed. From 17th to 20th 2 deserters from the 7th and 23d regiments of cavalry came over, and some few operations of no importance took place. The Commodore of the *Escuadrilla* wrote, that five Italian sailors had ran away with the whale boat *Ituzaingo*.

21. Ensign Gonzales took an enemy's sentinel prisoner, with his arms and accoutrements; his companion saved himself in the woods, leaving his horse saddled behind him.

To the 24th, 3 more deserters arrived. On that day Lieut. Berdun sent out to reconnoitre by the Cerros del Quilombo, and met with 4 Brazilian soldiers, likewise reconnoitring; he took 1 of them prisoner, and killed 3.

27. Received a communication from a Lieutenant of the troops belonging to the *Escuadrilla* (D. Mariano Echeagucia), informing, that on the 22d they had an action with 3 schooners and 3 launches; that the Commodore's vessel had got aground, and the Commodore, D. Calixto Silva, and some sailors, had been made prisoners, in consequence of a flag of truce which he, Silva, sent against the advice of the rest of his officers, who wished him to continue the fight, and en-

deavour to escape; he replied, that it was rashness to do so, and that he preferred to be a prisoner. The officers then, in spite of the enemy's fire, retired, and saved the rest of the Escuadrilla.

28. Ensign Gonzales had an encounter with an enemy's party, of whom he killed 4 soldiers and 1 sergeant. It was known that the enemy had detached a force of 2000 men, of infantry and cavalry, for the interior. Commandante Llorente advices, that another enemy's force of 400 men, commanded by Col. Jardin, had appeared in the Barra del Quilombo con Tello.

29. A party of fifty men were appointed to watch their motions. 30. Nothing occurred.

(Signed,) JOAQUIN REVILLO.
Head Quarters Cerro Largo, 26th April, 1828.

The following has been posted in the British Commercial Room.

MONTE VIDEO, 26th April, 1828.

Sir,—I have the honor to transmit to you, for the information of British merchants, a copy of an Imperial decree, sent to me yesterday by the President, limiting the extension of the term of deposit on British merchandize bound for Buenos Ayres, but detained by the blockade in the custom house of Monte Video, to three months from the 27th of March last.

I have the honor to be, &c. &c.

THOMAS SAMUEL HOOD.

WOODBINE PARISH, Esq.

[TRANSLATION.]

Illustrious and Excellent Sir,

An order has been forwarded, under this date, to the board of Finance of the Cisplatine Province, in order to limit the deposit of goods in the custom-house and port, to the term of 3 months from the same date, from foreign vessels bound to B. Ayres, which measure has been decided upon, after considering the urgent reasons given by the said board on the 4th and 23d February last, and in conformity to the custom-house regulations, it will be necessary to pay the storage dues, for which the goods are liable. By order of his Imperial Majesty I communicate this to you. Palace of Rio Janeiro, 27th March, 1828.

Miguel Colman du Pin e Almeida.

(Signed) JOSE ANTONIO BARBOSO.

The committee having previously received advice of the accompanying decree, wrote a letter to Mr. Parish on the 10th inst. requesting his interference to obtain a further extension of the term of deposit for neutral goods in Monte Video, which Mr. Parish has promised to apply for immediately; The Committee, however, recommend the parties interested in the decree to protest against it in Monte Video, as being inconsistent with the communications received from Rio Janeiro, relative to the renewed extension of the term of deposit, as notified to the trade in Buenos Ayres, by Mr. Parish's letter, of 9th October, 1827, and memorandum, of 10th March, 1828,—Buenos Ayres, 21st May, 1828.

Dr. D. Francisco Ignacio Bustes, Envoy Extraordinary from this Republic to that of Bolivia, has been presented to the President, Sucre, to whom he made an "Alocucion," expressive of friendship, &c. and was answered in a correspondent manner.

The National Convention to be held in Santa Fé is soon expected to be installed, and to commence its functions.

Letters from Santa Fé state, that Governor Lopez was immediately to proceed to Entre Rios, and that the division of Santa Fé troops were ready to march; they were to be joined by the Cordova and Entre Rios contingents, the escort, and a company of artillery. The Corrientes troops were already under the orders of General Oribe, whose force and that of the vanguard, were immediately to enter the enemy's territory.

That part of the Cordova contingent of troops which have arrived in this city is composed of robust young men; they are to proceed forthwith to join the National army; the other part are to be under the command of Governor Lopez, and to be employed on a separate expedition to the Misiones.

A newspaper, entitled "El hijo menor del Diablo rosado," (the Red Devil's youngest son) has succeeded its defunct brother, (el hijo mayor,) It is said all the family of Pluto and Proserpine are to appear in print.

To the Editor of the British Packet.

Sir,—The inclosed two letters will convince you that the insinuations made against Commodore Bynon are ungenerous and unfounded, and not at all characteristic of Englishmen. I had received several other letters of similar import, which have been unfortunately destroyed; I should remark, that the saddle and bridle mentioned in Lieut. Fitz Costa's letter, was a present to that gentleman from Commodore Bynon.

I remain, Sir, &c.

ANDREW EDWARD CHALMERS,
Captain in the National Navy.

Buenos Ayres, May 20th, 1828.

Copy of a letter from Lieut. Fitz Costa to Capt. Chalmers.

My Dear Sir,—In case the boat does not return, will you do me the favor to have my saddle and bridle, which I left on board the Chacabuco taken care of; but if you can make it convenient, I should be glad to have it with me. I shall be most happy to see you at any future period, and may success attend you. Present my compliments to Captain George, (Captain Bynon,) tell him I thank him for his kindness to me, and wish him every happiness. Farewell, my dear Chalmers, and believe me to be most truly, your friend and well wisher,

JOSEPH FITZCOSTA.

The other letter is from Lieut. Richard Hayden, dated San Gabriel, requesting Capt. Chalmers to supply him with several articles, and begging his particular remembrance to Capt. Bynon.

Lieutenant Wilson has written to us a letter, dated Chascomus, May 9th, asserting Captain Dymon's ill treatment to the prisoners, and their sufferings on the march to Tandil, from climate, robberies, &c.; hopes that an Editor may be found possessed of some philanthropy, who detests cruelty even to an enemy, whatever may be his political feelings, and who is not afraid of publishing a statement in the cause of humanity and justice; and if such a man can be found in the Argentine Republic, he (Lieut. Wilson,) asks that man to give it publicity; alludes to the marching of 250 prisoners on foot, many of whom must die on the journey, from fatigue, thirst, and hunger; the letter then demands "what would Buenos Ayres say if the Emperor was to march his prisoners to the mines or Para, and there make them dry ditches and make forts.—Nothing ought to blind an editor to justice and truth; you ought to be

"The impartial satyr that ever was seen,
That speaks truth without fear, or flattery or spleen."

May 17.—Wind S. S. E. Sailed, Gun Boat No. 9, conveying the zamacá Maria Josefa with warlike stores for Santa Fé.

18.—Wind N., in the afternoon rain. Blockading squadron under sail standing to the eastward, and were soon out of sight. Arrived, Gun Boat No. 7, with a convoy from the northward.

19.—Wind W. S. W. and misty. Arrived, three balandras from the Parana. Sailed, lugger-boat Martin Garcia, with a fleet of small craft for the Parana, Bajada, &c.

20.—Wind N. Arrived, two boats from Las Vacas. We noticed in our No. 92, that five individuals, natives of Santa Fé, had been sentenced by Court Martial to suffer death, for the murder of Lieutenant Peterson. It was determined that two of them should undergo the sentence, the selection to be decided by drawing lots. At 3 p. m. a gun was fired from the schooner of war Maldonado,—red flag hoisted at the fore; armed boats in attendance, and the yards of each vessel manned. The two unhappy men who had drawn the lot of death, were brought out and shot on board the said schooner. The remaining three are to be imprisoned for life, and to work in the streets.

21.—Wind N. W. Arrived, the post office/boat, and two boats with passengers, from Las Vacas. Sailed, schooner of war Maldonado, Admiral Brown. do. Ninth February, Captain Rosales; do. Eighteenth January, Captain Nicholas George; do. Eleventh June, Captain Coe; and do. Thirtieth July,—to the northward. The Ninth February put back, having sprung her foremast. The Sarandi and Federal schooners of war left the Inner Roads, and anchored in Three-fathom Hole.

22.—Wind W. The four schooners of war under the orders of Admiral Brown which sailed yesterday, returned this morning. They have been off St. Juan's, and did not see any vessel.

Sailed, a Gun Boat, two zamacás and three balandras, to the northward. Arrived, Gun Boat No. 4, with a convoy from the Parana.

23.—Wind N. Arrived, two boats from the Banda Oriental, and a Gun Boat from Martin Garcia.

At 5, p. m. the National schooner of war Federal, (late Sin Par.) and Sarandi, stood down the river; at 5 the Brazilian squadron were in sight from the town.

24.—Wind W. and hazy. The Federal, and Sa-

randi, in sight, NE. Arrived, National schr. Federal, (late Richd. G. Cox,) Mickle, from London, 25th March, with a general cargo, to W. P. Ford & Co.

Arrived at the Salado on the 15th instant, the National zamacá Saladina, Captain Jassen, from Patagonia on 7th instant, with 148 prize slaves, 2 died on the passage. On the 8th, off the port of Rio Negro, saw a schooner brig, supposed the Combine, (American;) on the 9th saw a ship laying to, fine weather. The ship Don Domingo, prize to the privateer General Mancilla, was lost at Rio Negro; the cargo had been taken out. The privateer San Martin, captain Adams, in going out struck upon the bar, knocked off her rudder, and lost it, with other damage; she arrived at the bay of San Blas on the 4th inst.

A conspiracy among the black troops had been discovered, of which the following are the particulars. Two companies, from 40 to 50 men each, had been formed from the prize slaves lately brought to Patagonia. The petty officers (composed of Portuguese and Brazilians who had been prisoners, and entered the Republican service,) had tampered with the men. The suspicion of the Governor was awakened: he examined some of these petty officers and got a confession, that it was intended to murder all who would not join them; fit out two of the best vessels, and proceed to Monte Video. The pretty women (and the villains had some taste,) were to be spared, and forced to accompany them. One serjeant (a Brazilian,) had been shot, and four soldiers received 150 lashes each.

There are 450 prize slaves on board vessels in the harbour. Our informant states, that they are in good health, and well treated, as likewise the black soldiers; the latter are tolerably well clothed. 27 persons (slaves and Brazilians,) had escaped in a launch.

The Monte Video newspaper, Observador, of 26th April, in noting the arrival of the packet Chichester from Buenos Ayres, adds, that she brings to Monte Video 17 runaway prisoners. Such an occurrence (if not an absolute falsehood,) can only be accounted for upon the supposition that she had fallen in with the runaways from Patagonia, their numbers reduced from sufferings during the voyage.

Arrived at the Salado on the 19th instant, an American brig, from Monte Video, consigned to Messrs. Duguid, Holland, & Co., cargo, wine, paper, and oil. Sailed a few days since, from the above port, a British brig for Liverpool.

The Kingfisher Packet, from this the 14th, arrived at Monte Video on the 17th inst.

Broom made one of the dinner party on board the Kingfisher on the 13th inst. and over the bottle became quite a Hero, talked of his fine ship and crew, his anxiety to fight Admiral Brown, &c.

The Sardinian brig Viva Genova, which sailed from this on the 24th Nov. last, has arrived at Gibraltar; her arrival caused a trifling decline in the price of hoes at that port.

The American schooner Magnet, Marsh, 215 days from Havannah, (having put into Pernambuco to repair) arrived at Monte Video on the 10th inst.; she had been met with by the three-masted schooner near the Ortiz bank, and ordered back.

Some officers belonging to this Republic have made their escape from Rio Janeiro, including Captain Pavoli, late of the privateer schooner Esperanza, a brother of Captain Bibois, &c. They escaped in a whale-boat, and upon their passage took a zumaca, sailed in her for the Tuyú, and got safe on shore to Mr. Casarés' estancia, in that neighbourhood.

The Newspaper *El Tiempo*, of 14th inst., contains the names of 539 individuals, who have petitioned the Junta to annul the late election on the plea of illegality.

THEATRE.

The opera of 'Otelo' was performed on 15th instant, and we most again express our opinion that many parts of it are tedious and common-place, mingled with music of great expression and beauty, such as the trio "Ti parli d'amore," the solo and finale to the second and nearly all the music of the third act. Rosquellas exhibited an excellent idea of the Moor, and received deserved applause in the duet with Ingo. Vacani and Riccolini exerted themselves to the utmost. Vera's voice is totally unfit for the part assigned to him, and some fine music is thereby marred. Doña Angelita sang very delightfully, but she did not please us on this evening as heretofore. Señora Vacani was more than respectable.

It was a select audience; several of the fashionables were however absent, not including the fair *Hermione*.

Handbills were circulated in the Theatre, explaining the views of the new Operatic company, and the necessity for the extra prices. That in order to cover the charges of salaries to performers, orchestra, &c., the lights, and 3000 dollars given for the use of the house, the receipts upon each of the 43 nights on which Operas are to be given during the year ought to be 1200 dollars, and which could not be realized at the old prices: and that no view of speculation exists, having solely the wish to be reimbursed the expenses incurred. New Operas are to be produced. — Mussoni (the report of whose death we are glad to find is untrue,) is to be engaged to lead the orchestra; and arrangements made for the coming here of Doña Maria Tani, and her brother Francisco, from Rio Janeiro: the latter to take his former situation in the Orchestra.

On 19th instant was performed, to a numerous audience, "*La casa con dos puertas mala es de guardar*." It is an elegant and entertaining piece, in the style of Mrs. Centlivre's comedy of 'The Wonder.' Doñas Trinidad and Matilda, and Señor Velarde, were excellently attired in the Spanish costume of two centuries back.

On 20th instant was repeated the amusing farce of the "*Caldereros y Vecindad*," (the Tinkers and the Neighbours, we suppose,) in which the ladies Matilda and Antonina harangued from the boxes, and Señor Cossio from the pit.

Another enchantress has lately appeared at the Paris Theatre, in the person of Mademoiselle Sontag. The following extract of a letter from an English gentleman, and inserted in the London *Courier* of 9th January last, will convey some idea of this bewitching creature:

"I was fortunate to-night—I have seen her—she is all that I have heard—young, beautiful, and divinely gifted. She appeared before me like one of those bright creatures we have sometimes read of, upon whom, at their birth, the good Genii had showered all their choicest favours. Her beauty steals over the senses, until at length it steeps them in a sort of dreamy admiration. You feel, as you gaze upon the gentle girl, that each succeeding moment

serves only to discover some new charm. She is "the gentle Desdemona," such as she passed from the imagination of the first of poets. And how lovely she did look when the curtain drew up for the third act! She was dressed in a plain robe of white, made after the fashion of those worn in the days of Charles II. She was seated at a table, her cheek resting upon her small white hand, while the exquisite symmetry of her arm was perfectly displayed through the wide lace sleeve; and her long brown hair, relieving the dazzling whiteness of her neck and bosom, fell almost to her feet. Every ornament, even the rich gem that had before sparkled on her forehead, was removed, and she remained a thousand times more charming though decked only in her own surpassing loveliness."

The above forms only a very small portion of the letter, all of which is written in the same glowing strain. How shameful it is to say that Englishmen are cold and insensible to beauty's power, because they are now and then timid and bashful! In reality they are the most loving, tender, constant, and desperate lovers of any nation upon record. Do they not hang, shoot, drown, and poison themselves by wholesale for love?—What can they do more! Has Buenos Ayres arrived at that pitch of refinement? Can she boast of actions at law, and swinging damages, occasioned by the "tender passion," and which to particularize by name would be too naughty for the *British Packet*? The English have been most grossly slandered. Let the splenetic poet write of

"Our cloudy climate, and our chilly women,"
Our hearts, when love is concerned, are absolutely "blood heat," whilst those of warmer climes are only "temperate."

DIED.

On 15th instant, in child birth, Mrs. HUNT, wife of Mr. GEORGE HUNT of this city.

Advertisements.

FRESH BUTTER.—The highest price will be given for fresh Butter of the first quality, by applying at No. 59 Calle de la Piedad.

Public Instruction.

THE Directors of the ATENEO, wishing to fix the opening of this establishment upon the anniversary of an event memorable in the history of the country, have resolved to commence their labours on that of the foundation of this Capital. They in consequence inform the Public, that on the 11th of June next it is their intention to open all the Classes, according to the Programme already published. On Sunday, 8th of June, the inauguration will take place, and the following days the boarding scholars will be received. Those who have not yet received tickets of admission, are requested to call at No. 107 Calle de la Florida, before the day of opening.

The inauguration, for which invitation tickets will be distributed, will take place in the Argentine College, No. 19 Calle de Chacabuco.

PRICE OF SPECIE.

Doublings, 49 to 50 dollars each.
Spanish Dollars, 190 per cent. premium.
Gold in bars, 20 to 21 reals per quilate.
Silver do. 16 to 17 reals per dinero.
Exchange on London, 16d to 17d per dollar.
Six per cent. Stock, 44 to 45.