

THE

British Packet,

AND

ARGENTINE NEWS.

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No. 199.]

BUENOS AYRES, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 1828.

[VOL. 3.]

BUENOS AYRES.

The brig *Vine*, from the United States, brought intelligence that the corvette *Bolivar*, purchased by Fournier, had been detained by the authorities at New York, and her guns (21 long eighteen pounders,) and ammunition, disembarked, in consequence of a remonstrance from the Brazilian Minister in the United States. The brig *Homer* (captured by the *Junca* in her passage out,) had been armed, and we believe had sailed from New York for St. Bartholemew's, after some attempts to detain her, which the brig managed to evade. The corvette will (after the competent examinations) doubtless be allowed to proceed as a merchant vessel, without armament, the same as the frigates purchased by the Brazilian Government.

If the report is correct that Fournier was openly fitted out the corvette at New York, engaging seamen, &c. the U. States' Government could not do otherwise than interfere when called upon so to do by the Minister of a friendly power. Some mismanagement has taken place—we wish that the mission had been more privately arranged. It is likewise a misfortune that this Republic has no Consul or Agent in the United States of North America: hitherto a fatality has attended the efforts to obtain vessels of war from foreign nations.

We have had news this week from Rio Janeiro, by way of Monte Video and the Salado. The Deputies from this arrived at Rio on the 6th ultimo, and had various conferences with the three Brazilian Ministers appointed to negotiate with them, viz., Pereyra, Aracati, and O'aveira; the exchange upon England rose to 33, but had declined again to 31. Lord Ponsonby arrived on the 15th, and detained the *Nocton Packet*, which had come from England, and was posted to sail on the 16th for Buenos Ayres: it was supposed she would depart about 20th ult.

The town has been full of rumours and surmises upon the question of peace or war; a very strong party however, incline to the opinion that the Deputies will not leave Rio Janeiro without making Peace, and what is more an honourable Peace for the Republic. Setting aside other contingents, should the war continue the blockade seems likely to die a natural death. The following list of arrivals and sailings from the departure of the last Packet, the *Redpole*, on

the 13th July to the 3d September, must convince neutral powers of the total incompetency of Brazil to wield the terrible weapon of blockade.

Nine brigs and schooners, American and British: corvette *New 25th May*, and *Sarandi*, from the *Salado*—11 vessels. Sailed in the same period for foreign ports eight vessels, brigs, schooners, &c. Arrived at the *Salado* 12 vessels: sailed 15. Total arrivals 23 vessels—sailings 21.

The above does not include the numerous small craft (coasters) which daily arrive and sail.

We have invariably expressed the opinion that Brazil cannot long support the present great expenditure, and that even Great Britain with all her resources, would most sensibly feel such a state of things.

In the Rio Janeiro newspaper, *Aurora Fluminense*, of 8th ult. are some interesting statements, and remarks upon the financial affairs of the Empire, by which it appears that the revenue was deficit 3,465,000 dollars in the last year, and nearly to that amount is given as deficiency in the estimated expenses for the year 1829. The whole of the National debt of Brazil is rated at 65 millions of dollars, including the foreign debt of 25 millions, and the 25 millions owing to the Bank.

The editor notices the state of the finances in the year 1825, when the whole of their resources were untouched, makes a comparison with the present, and proceeds in the following strain.

"The army and navy alone require 14 millions of dollars per annum, which is almost the whole of the receipts, and it will be necessary to suck the blood of the people by imposing new taxes, or to contract ruinous loans, in order to have the barren pleasure of figuring as a military and maritime nation, And will Ministers not open their eyes to the abyss to which we are so fast approaching—will they not commiserate the unfortunate but generous Brazilian nation, worthy of a better fate?"

After commenting upon the enormous debt, it goes on:— "What advantages have we obtained, or do we expect to obtain?—the only one, has been to clear the European prisons, and to receive amongst us monsters who already begin to devour us. How much will Brazil have to pay as indemnification for the independent captures made, calculated at about 25 millions! The errors committed by the Ministers who

have governed us since 1824 will be clearly perceived. Again the national losses in consequence of the devastation in the Provinces, particularly that of Rio Grande: the want of commerce: the stagnation of agriculture and manufactures may be calculated at 75 millions. Then the number of Brazilian lives sacrificed in so short a period:—the families that have taken refuge in the woods dying of misery and hunger.”

The above picture (which is probably not much overcharged,) adds greatly to the expectation of Peace. The Emperor commenced war with the idea that a few months of blockade, and the prowess of his brilliant army must crush his presumed insignificant foe, and he has gone on from month to month, or rather from year to year, indulging in the same hope. The proceedings of the Brazilian vessels of war have been sufficiently commented upon; the army, so brilliant on the parade at Rio Janeiro, have made but a sorry figure against their less splendidly attired Republican enemies; how great the contrast!—the enthusiastic Gaucho soldier in little hat and poncho, and the well dressed Imperialist!! Ah, this said Emperor of Brazil little knew the enemy he was to encounter, and the danger which still hangs over his Empire from these well combined hordes, should he refuse reasonable terms of peace.

The Brazilian brig of war Piraja, Capt. Geo. Clarence, has arrived at Rio from Monte Video and likewise the corvette Carioca, Parker. The Rio paper in announcing the arrival of the latter, states that Donald Campbell, Captain of the Buenos Ayrean privateer Feliz, came as prisoner. A Brazilian ship, a brig and a schr. have sailed from Rio for the coast of Africa, (slaving,) each having a letter of marque.

The *Aurora Fluminense* announces that the French paper at Rio called the *Echo* has expired, and its place occupied by the *Courier*, written in the same language: that the *Espelho Diamantino*, *Censor*, and the English paper *Rio Herald*, are likewise defunct. A new paper has started in Portuguese, called the *Analysta*.

A proposition has been made to the Government by Don Mariano Fraguero, in conjunction with other individuals, to build a mole: the conditions proposed are said to be as follows:—The mole is to be erected in front of the barracca of the said Fraguero, (north of the present mole.) The Government does not aid in its construction, which is to be at the entire cost of the Shareholders; all that they require from the Government is, that when the work is completed, the Custom House should be removed to the immediate neighbourhood of the new mole, and that for a number of years (not less than 50 nor more than 60,) those interested should receive a small duty from vessels taking in and discharging cargo, and after that period the mole to become State property. The lading and unlading of vessels at the new mole will cost about one-fifth of what it does at present.

According to letters from Monte Video, the partizans of the Emperor in that city, now that there is a probability of Peace, are very assiduous in endeavouring to create dissensions among the Orientals.

BRITISH PHILANTHROPIC SOCIETY.

This Society has relieved since its formation ten cases, of which 7 were families and 3 single persons. The sum of \$152 2, has been expended on medical assistance and medicine: and 526 4, in weekly allowances, and purchase of clothing. The following is a statement of the expenses and funds of the Society.

The British Philanthropic Society, in account with the Subscribers.

DR.

To amount paid in relief of cases and sundry expenses	\$597 4
Medical attendance and bill for medicine...	152 2
In Savings' Bank of disposable fund	204
do. do. permanent fund	1,816
	<hr/>
	2,769 6
	<hr/>

CR.

By amount of subscriptions	\$750
Donations	1,636
Interest on do.....	180—1,816
Interest on disposable fund.....	51
Balance due to the Treasurer	152 6
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	2,769 6
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JOHN HYNDMAN, Treasurer.

August 18th, 1828.

It affords the Committee much pleasure to be able to state that this sum though small, has been quite adequate to the relief of every suitable case which has been presented to their attention during the course of the past year; and though a great increase to the British residents may be expected yet from the facilities of procuring a livelihood in this country, it is hoped that the funds of the Society voluntarily contributed, will always keep pace with the actual relief required to succour their countrymen in sickness and unavoidable distress. Pauperism, always to be denounced as a grievous infliction upon society, need have no existence in this country; but honest poverty is the allotment of divine providence, and in all ages and countries there will be some that will stand in need of assistance from the hand of christian charity: some who, through misfortunes, are reduced to want and distress, and who claim the benevolent aid of the more favoured part of their fellow creatures; it is for these only that the committee plead—and for these they feel assured that they shall not plead in vain. Sensible however, of the evil effects which an indiscriminate liberality has upon the civil and moral condition of the lower orders, in the remission of industry: in lessening a becoming feeling of conscious independence, and in a degradation of moral principle, they cannot but urge upon all ranks, and especially upon the better informed, of artizans and mechanics, to disseminate proper views on this subject, as such persons will be listened to by their associates and workmen with far less prejudice than the

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most sincere and disinterested friends of the poor in a higher station of life. The Committee moreover, invite and strongly urge, the poorer classes themselves to contribute to the objects of the Society, as they are the persons for whose benefit it has been instituted; and they cannot but highly recommend to them the formation of one of those excellent Benefit Societies, of which no less than 12,000 have been established in their native country; containing 300,000 members. The Societies which have been of late established, have adopted the Rev. I. T. Becher's tables, by which a person entering a Society at the age of seventeen, insures for 4½d. per month, and correspondingly for larger sums, 2s. per week during illness: 1s. per week for life, after reaching the age of sixty five, and a payment to his family of £2 at his death. It is clear however, that such Societies must be formed with the greatest care, and upon the most accurate calculation, otherwise the benefits contemplated by them will not be secure; but their benefits, when properly established are obvious, since it is "by the contribution of the savings of many persons to one common fund, that the most effectual provision can be made for casualties liable to affect all the contributors." There can be no doubt but that to avoid the effects of misfortune, the best way is to provide against it by uniting with others, so that each person may subject himself to a small sacrifice, in order that no one may be subjected to a great one. It is true, that he who meets with no misfortune, receives nothing in return for his money given, but he has the pleasure of seeing his contributions made with scarcely any inconvenience to himself, serviceable to the relief of others upon whom losses and afflictions have fallen, and he obtains security against unforeseen and unavoidable distress, and consequent peace of mind—benefits which every prudent man will deem it necessary to secure.

* * The subscription for the ensuing year commenced on the 1st ultimo, and will be received by the Treasurer, (Mr. John Hyndman,) at his residence, No. 59 calle de la Piedad.

Upon M. Fleury's arrival on Thursday last, it was stated as unquestionable that Fournier with four vessels of war, was left a short time since near Cape Roque—the spirits of all good patriots took a correspondent rise; the "Calle de 25 de Mayo," in which is concentrated the news of Buenos Ayres became crowded; but towards afternoon the affair assumed another aspect: the "sound men and true" did not look quite so happy, and some ejaculated, like honest Jack Falstaff. "Lord, lord, how this world is given to lying."

We have made the following extract from the *Diario Commercial* of yesterday, of the details given by M. Fleury, which will probably come nearer the truth.

"He left New York on 25th May, at which time the corvette Bolivar was under detention, and as her destination was universally known in the United States, the Spanish and Brazilian Agents had made such representations that it was found necessary to disembark the armament and crew. M. Bellamare was authorized by Fournier, and proceeded to Washington to represent the injustice of the proceeding, and defend the rights of the Argentine Republic: that armaments

had been made in the U. States to act against the Republic, and met with no obstacle—and succeeding in dissipating the discontent felt by the Government of the U. States relative to the capture of the brig Ruth, by the privateer Rayo Argentino—in the end, Monsr. B. returned to New York with an order that the Embargo should be taken off." It is further added, that a respectable person in Rio Janeiro has received a letter, announcing that the corvette sailed from New York on 3d June: that she had proceeded to St. Bartholomew's—had a crew of 250 men, was accompanied by a good brig and the schooner Juncal, and had likewise joined the privateer ship Gaviota.

It is reported (and we believe correctly,) that the privateer ship Governor Dorrego, Soulin, was captured by a Brazilian squadron, including the corvette Batioja, and carried into Monte Video.

Don Felix Alzaga has been elected President of the National Bank.

Accounts from the army to 18th ult. state that Col. Suarez had joined with his division;—the continued rains had prevented any active operations.

August 30.—Wind S. Arrived this afternoon and anchored in the Outer Roads. American brig Vine, Downing, from Salem 19th June, to Messrs. Dana & Carman; did not see any Brazilian vessels in the river, cargo 110 bbls. flour, gin, tea, dry goods and other effects;—the boat came on shore about 5 o'clock P. M.: it being a holiday, and the circumstance of a vessel arriving in mid-day, attracted a great crowd to the beach.

Arrived, a boat from the British ship Gaspée, at Ensenada. Sailed, a Privateer Boat.

Admiral Brown's squadron, including the corvette New 25th May, anchored in the Inner Roads from three fathom hole.

31.—Wind E. S. E. Arrived, British ship Gaspée, Vibert, from Ensenada, consigned to Messrs. Bertrani, Armstrong & Co.: saw a schr. apparently steering towards Ensenada, and no Brazilian vessels in sight. American brig Vine came into the Inner from the Outer Roads this day.

Sept. 1.—Wind S. E. foggy. Intelligence received that the British schr. Pilchard from London had got aground below Ensenada; the schr. of war Sarandi sailed from this to her assistance, and a pilot despatched by land.

Sailed, National schooner of war 18th January, for Martin Garcia.

2.—Wind E. N. E. Arrived, Gun Boat No. 6 and 8, with a convoy of coasters from the N., and a boat from Las Vacas. Sailed, some launches and boats for the Parana, Las Vacas, &c. Five vessels of the National flotilla left the Inner Roads, and anchored in three fathom hole.

3.—Wind E. Arrived, schooner of war Sarandi, Chalmers, from Ensenada, having on board a considerable portion of the cargo of the British schr. Pilchard; the remainder had been landed, or placed in a hulk at that port—the vessel remained aground; no Brazilian vessels were in sight;—the report of three guns were heard yesterday afternoon at Ensenada from the E. A gun was fired this afternoon from the National schr. of war 30th July, a flag of truce

hoisted, and she sailed in search of the Brazilian squadron, having on board exchanged prisoners of war.

Sailed, Gun Boat No. 7 and some small craft to the Northward.

4.—Wind S. W. Arrived, British schr. *Pilchard*, Robertson, from London 27th May, general cargo, consigned to Messrs. Hill, Thomson & Co.; she was aground at Ensenada, but got off last night and sustained but little damage.

Arrived, schr. of war 13th January, from Martin Garcia, having on board ballast for the corvette *New 25th May*, a Gun Boat with convoy from the Parana, and the post Office boat from Las Vacas. Passenger, Monsieur Fleury, one of Fournier's officers. Sailed, Gun Boat No. 1 for Las Palmas, to convoy vessels hither, and No. 7 for Banda Oriental; passengers, two military officers.

Sailed, British schr. *Resolution*, Thomson, for Liverpool.

5.—Wind W. Sailed, several sail of small craft to the Northward.

On 28th ult. the National brig of war *General Rondeau* and schooner *Argentina* were off the Salado: signalized to the shore, and immediately made sail. On 30th a Brazilian squadron of seven sail made their appearance, and burned 2 vessels, viz. American schr. brig *Huzzar*, Foals, which arrived on 29th instant from Rio Janeiro 12 days, cargo sugar and tobacco, consigned to Daniel Gowland; and the British brig *Lord Eldon*, Cooper, from Parnagua, with timber and yerba, to the same. The above vessels had got aground at some distance from the harbour. 121 bales of yerba were saved from the *Lord Eldon*: the Brazilians took out the first and second mate, and seven of the crew; the Captain and supercargo got to shore. All the crew of the *Huzzar* were sent on shore.

The Brazilian schr. of war *Feliz* has returned to Monte Video leaky; the brig *Niger* lost her rudder in the late gale, and as she had not arrived at Monte Video, she was supposed to have foundered.

The French brig noticed in our No. 107 as having arrived at the Salado, is the *Prosper*, Darlan, from Havre de Grace, cargo wine, paper, brandy, dry goods, and other effects; and the British brig *Mary*, Tucker, likewise arrived at the same place from Havre, and noticed in above No. has a cargo of wine, dry goods, planks, &c.; both consigned to Don Ramon Larrea.

The British schooner *Pilchard* (arrived here) was aground below Ensenada for 4 days, and did not see any Brazilian vessels in that period; in her passage up the river near the Salado passed within gunshot of several sail of their vessels, and likewise off the Chico bank: they did not offer to intercept her.

The American brig *Budget* was detained near the Ortiz bank, having it is said, got aground, and has since arrived at Monte Video.

THEATRE.

The opera of *Cenerentola* was announced for the 29th ult., but deferred on account of the incessant rain. A series of comedies and farces have been performed lately, and Felipe David every day establishes his claim to the highest honours of his profession—little rogue—who can help laughing at his dröllerries. In characters of intriguing knavery how excellent he is: as a servant, if his master enters a drawing room, and pays his “devoirs” to the lady of the house, Felipe immediately makes up to the maid, and commences his grotesque “obeissances.” He is a true disciple of Momus.

Quintana's famous tragedy of *Los Furores de Oreste* was represented on Tuesday evening, for the benefit of Cossio. He is a good actor in his way, but not in tragedy; in the *Kera Khan* parts, Captains of Banditti, and in farce, he has great merit: in the latter he often wears an old red coat and cocked hat, reminding us of a town-crier of a country village in England attired in his every day habit. Velarde at times evinced some tragic ability. The house was fully and fashionably attended; the lady of General Alvear (her face is true Siddonian,) and her interesting daughter, were present; likewise the youthful “Hermione,” intent only upon the tragedy, and “Evadne,” her magnificent head picturing to the fancy the admirable bust such graces would form.

BIRTH.

At Santa Catalina, near this city, on 30th ult. the lady of Wm. P. Robertson, Esq., of a son.

PRICE OF SPECIE.

Doubloons, 51 á 52 dollars each.—And during the week considerable business transacted; in the early part the price was 49 á 49½. Since Tuesday they have advanced, and contracts made at 53, to be delivered on 30th inst.

Spanish and Patriot Dollars, 195 á 200 per cent. prem.—But little doing.

Plata macuquina, 192 á 195 per ct. premium.—In demand for the Interior.

Gold in bars, 20 quilates 17½ á 17¾ rials per quilate.—Little doing.

Silver in do. 11 dineros, 17 á 17¼ rials per dinero.—Little doing.

Six per cent Stock, 50 dollars.—Little doing.

Bank Shares, 165 á 170 dollars each.—In demand.

Exchange on England, 17d. per dollar.—About £4000 have been sold this week at that price; at present there are but few sellers.

Do. on Monte Video, 142 á 150 per ct. premium.—About 4000 dollars have been sold, but purchasers are rather scarce.

Do. on Rio, 65 á 70 per cent. premium.—Nominal.

Sugars, 17 á 22 dollars per arroba.—Advancing.

Hair, horse, 7 á 9 dolls. per arroba.

Skins, patria, 3 á 6½ dollars per dozen.—Little inquiry.

Do. chinchilla, 18 á 20 dollars per do.—Scarce.

Hides, best ox, 10½ á 11 dollars per pesada.—The demand steady.

Do. cow, 9½ á 10 dollars per do.—Demand steady.

Salted Hides, 10 dollars per 60 lbs.

Discount, 1½ á 1¾ per ct per month.

Manufactures and Brazil produce.—Advancing.