

British Packet,

AND

ARGENTINE NEWS.

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No. 116.]

BUENOS AYRES, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25, 1828.

[Vol. 3.]

BUENOS AYRES.

There are two modes always of considering a written contract—in its spirit and in its letter; for where there is a desire to cavil, the *letter* can in almost every case, be so interpreted and twisted as wholly to destroy the *spirit* of an agreement. To counteract this evil, we have in England a Court of Equity, in which moral justice forms the basis of every decision, when the letter is disputed or ambiguous: and as in every country there are technicalities, so every where the rigour of strict and written law terms is modified by an appeal to principle and equity, where the case seems to demand their interference.

Now it appears to us undeniable that the contract which we inserted in our No. 114, entered into between this Government and the proprietors of Monte Grande, ought to be wholly and entirely considered in its *spirit*, and its fulfilment mutually by the parties decided on accordingly. The contract originated clearly in a moral object had in-view by both parties—the improvement and advancement of this country in its agriculture and population; and we have a right to look to this object being pursued on a more steady, enlightened, and systematically extensive scale by a Government than by individuals, and more especially by the Government of a young country, enjoying so limited a share as this does of the advantages flowing from agriculture and an industrious population.

The proprietors of Monte Grande enjoying at the time of making the contract ample means, were desirous from very praiseworthy motives, of "giving an efficacious beginning to a system of emigration to this country, and proposed to introduce a sort of experimental colony, provided the Government here should be inclined to protect and assist them in the enterprize."

Accordingly, under the contract referred to, about three hundred persons in the mode already detailed by us were landed here at the sole and exclusive expence of Messrs. Robertson. The first intention was to have formed a colony towards the frontiers of Buenos Ayres, but difficulties of so tangible and insuperable a nature offered towards carrying the plan forward in this particular way, that it was determined to place the colony near the town, with a view to an exclusively agricultural establishment. In the immediate vicinity however, the Government had no lands, and to

obviate this difficulty, Mr. W. P. Robertson purchased the three contiguous chacras or farms which the colony now occupies, and for which he had to pay about sixty thousand hard dollars. About this time (1825,) emigration to this country had taken place to a very considerable extent, and unfortunately the emigrants generally were of characters and habits little calculated to be beneficial to the country in a moral point of view. Mr. Robertson, aware of the very different class of people that had been sent out to him, determined before applying for aid from the Government, to show practically that that aid even independently of a contract, could be given beneficially for the country.

The project therefore was carried forward under every disadvantage to the *proprietors*, but in a way to insure the prosperity of the occupiers of Monte Grande. Under the assistance afforded them, and the system and plan pursued: the industry, taste, and practical knowledge put forth, the colony not only soon laid the foundation of a permanent prosperity, but in two years entirely changed the face of that part of the country which it occupied; and at this moment the colony presents to the view of every one the realization of all that the proprietors could propose—a model of industry, comfort, agricultural improvement, and moral excellence, worthy of imitation, and highly creditable to the parties who have produced this happy result.

The colony once established, the proprietors of it spared no sacrifice to ensure its success, and to accomplish the object proposed, and accordingly, in bringing the families from Europe: in implements of husbandry of every kind: in machinery: in the lands and stock: in houses, and in improvements of the ground of every kind, they have laid out a sum now exceeding sixty thousand pounds sterling; and this sum has been expended in round numbers in the following manner:

In bringing out the colonists, and advances made, and implements of every kind, about.....	£15,000
In lands, and stocking the same.....	15,000
In houses on the colony about.....	20,000
In permanent improvements, hedging, fencing, planting, &c.....	10,000
	<hr/>
	£60,000

The manner in which the great capital employed in the colony has been distributed, will shew at once that though sunk for the present, the great proportion of it is by no

means lost: that though not calculated to give an immediate and extensive return, that it has laid the seeds of this result; and above all, that joined to the personal industry and exertion which have accompanied the outlay, it has laid the foundation of a great and permanent improvement in the agricultural and general country pursuits of the Province of Buenos Ayres. And we desire it may always be kept in view that we wish no one to take our simple assertion for the fact of the progress and present state of the colony, and of its superiority to any thing else whatever in the Province in the same line;—it is open to the inspection of all, and already many of the principal inhabitants of Buenos Ayres have visited it, from all of whom we have heard but one un-deviating report: that nothing better as a model could be desired to be seen, and that nothing could call more imperatively on the Government for its support and decided co-operation.

When we resume the subject, we shall consider the manner in which the question of the colony has been viewed by the authorities of this country, and the extent to which they have fulfilled the moral as well as written obligations under which they came to protect and assist the enterprize.

In the Provincial Junta of 20th instant the projects presented by Government to erect a monument to perpetuate the memory of the Peace, and for granting a sum of money to the Ministers who negotiated it, and to the Secretary of Legislation were read, and passed to the Committee of Finance.

Señor Viamont presented the following motion: 'That in consideration of the eminent services rendered by Admiral Brown in the war against the Emperor of Brazil, that he should be promoted to the rank of Brigadier General, with the pay of six thousand dollars per annum. The Government sent a note to the Junta that they had already conferred that rank upon him, and forwarded it to the National Convention, for their approbation.

A motion was introduced into the Junta, that in consideration of the great services rendered to the Republic, and particularly to the Province of Buenos Ayres by the present Governor, Don Manuel Dorrego, that the sum of 100,000 dollars in the public funds of 6 per cent. should be presented to him. This motion was sanctioned by the Junta in their sitting of 21st instant.

A decree has been issued, fixing the price of beef at 6 rials the arroba, until the Government can take means to provide the markets at a cheaper rate, and an advertisement from the Police Office states, that in consequence of the opposition made to selling the beef at 4 reales the arroba, the Chief of Police (Don Gregorio Perdriel,) is authorized to receive tenders for contracts to supply the markets for one year.

A Court Martial was held on the 18th inst. at the Marine Office upon Lieut. Robt. Steel, charged with attempting to run away with the schooner of war Maldonado; he was sentenced to be dishonoured, and to be banished perpetually.

The Governors of several of the Provinces have addressed congratulatory letters to the Governor of this Province upon the Peace recently concluded with Brazil.

On Sunday last, being the day of *San Pedro de Alcantara*, the batteries at Colonia fired salutes at sunrise, mid day, and sunset, which were distinctly heard in this city.

The streets and shops were on Saturday evening crowded, tempted perhaps by the great fall in goods, and a calm moon-light night. The band of the *Civicos* at 9 o'clock halted at the corner of the calle de la Victoria, (Bond street) and at their barracks opposite the Market place, and performed arias from Tancredi, Cenerentola, &c. A few years since one or other of the regimental bands were accustomed to perform on every fine evening in the calle de la Victoria.

On Saturday last was sold by public auction on the beach, the wreck, sails, rigging, &c. of the British brig Triton, sunk in the Inner Roads on the night of 11th inst.; the hull was sold to Mr. Samuel Cross, for 660 dollars. Forty three men were immediately sent on board, and five pumps placed in operation, and by constant exertion the wreck floated, and on the morning of the 21st was moved further into the Inner Roads, and the flag of this Republic hoisted; but as the leak is not yet discovered, she cannot be pronounced as in perfect safety: at any rate it would have been an endless expense with doubtful success, had the Captain attempted to raise her. She has coals and iron on board.



MARINE LIST.

PORT OF BUENOS AYRES.



Oct. 18—Wind E. S. E.

Arr. Fr. ship Vaillant, Morin, Monte Video, wine and dry goods, to M. Loreilhe; lost three anchors near Point Indio in the gale on the night of the 14th and morning of 15th inst. Upon her arrival off this port an anchor and cable were despatched to her. National zumaca Santa Rita, from Salado, to Ramon Larrea; do do Fama, Carey, Ensenada, to Anderson, Weller & Co.; do. balandra Carmen, fm. Colonia; and several sail of small craft from the N.

Oct. 19—Wind N. N. E.

Arr. Nat. zumaca Louisa, Shepperd, Salado, cocoa, to F. Castro; Am. schr William and Mary, Dickinson, do. general cargo, to Dana & Carman; do do Cadmus, Black, do. to Gowland, Slacum & Co.

Sailed, Br. schr. Pilchard, Robertson, for Ensenada, to be hove down.

Oct. 20—Wind S. E.

Arr. Am. brig Grape, Knowles, Bahia 28th Sept., biscuit, gin, rum, tobacco, tea, segars, &c. to Zimmerman, Frzier & Co.; Brazilian balandra Tres Amigos, Antonio, M. Video 16th inst. general cargo, to Gowland, Slacum & Co.; Nat. zumaca State, from Monte Video; a Gun Boat, and several sail of small craft from the Northward.

Sailed, Br. brig Packet Nocton, Morphew, for Ensenada, to be hove down.

Oct. 21.—Wind S.

Arr. Br. brig Swiftsure, Caddy, Santos 9th inst., sugar, to Ramon Anzó; Nat. zumaca Victoria, Monte Video, general cargo, to José Gestal; and a fleet of small craft from the N.

Sailed, National cutter Louisa, for Monte Video, with several passengers. The brig of war Balcarré anchored in three fathom hole from the Inner Roads,

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Oct. 22—Wind S. S. E.

Sailed, Br. brig Betty, Maers, for Monte Video, in ballast; and Gun Boat No. 10 for Las Vacas, with several military officers.

Oct. 23—Wind S.

Arr. Br. brig Mary, Tucker, Salado 22d, to R. Larrea; Fr. brig Prosper, Darlan, do. 20th, to same: Brazilian brig Independiente, (late Am. brig Sarah) Cardozo, Monte Video 20th, brandy, &c. to Almeida; Nat. schr. of war 9th February, do. 20th—she has brought some of the regiment of Colordos and their Colonel, (Aguirre); do. do. 13th January, from her mission to the coasts near Cape St. Antonio and St. Mary's, to order away the Privateers, in consequence of the Peace; do. do. Gun Boat No. 13, Monte Video, with 32 prisoners of the mutineers of the corvette New 25th of May: they were taken in the Banda Oriental by the troops of Col. Oribe; Nat. balandra Avispa, Monte Video 18th, general cargo, to V. Gonzales; National zumaca Saladina, Jersen, Patagonia 14th, general cargo, to order; Brazilian balandra Rosario, Monte Video 21st, general cargo, to Delfin.

Oct. 24—Wind N. E.

Arrived and sailed, several small craft from and to the Parana, &c.

When the National schr. brig of war Convention left Patagonia, the British brigs Huskisson and Albuera were still there; it was doubtful when they would sail for this port, as they much needed caulking. The privateer Libertador Bolivar, Capt. Costa, was likewise there.

The National brig of war Cacique, do. schr. brig Federal, and schr. Argentina, had sailed from Patagonia, destination unknown.

The British brig Gazelle, from Liverpool 6th August, arrived at Monte Video 14th inst.; and the American ship New Orleans, Cole, from Rio Janeiro, with flour, soap, planks, &c. to Zimmermann, Frazier & Co. arrived on the 16th.

We had prepared an article upon the state of the Inner Roads of this port; the following letter however, from a correspondent so nearly explains all that we wished to say upon the subject, that we insert it in preference.

To the Editor of the British Packet.

SIR,—The dangerous navigation of this river, and the inconvenience of the Inner Roads for taking in and discharging cargoes, greatly adds to the price of goods imported to this country, taking into account the extra expense occasioned by insurance, demurrage, &c. The produce of the country equally suffers, as the articles exported are such as can generally be obtained from other countries. From the neglected state of the Inner Roads, one might be induced to think that this simple truth had escaped the attention of the several Executive Governments which have existed, else some exertion certainly would have been made to amend the same, or at least to prevent the very bad from becoming worse; persons are allowed to run vessels upon the beach, to break up what they please, and to leave what they please, which is a dangerous nuisance to strange boats approaching the shore; wrecks lie without any steps being taken to remove them. There are at present the wrecks of the Agamemnon: the old 25th of May, and of the Florida, and from the crowded state of the Roads should a gale of wind occur, the probability is that these wrecks will occasion more, as they are exactly in the way of other vessels should they drag a little

from their moorings. Another nuisance is that anchors are permitted to remain on parts of the shore, where at some time or other they may occasion mischief, and if it is so where every eye can see them, it is hardly to be expected they will meet with more attention where the eye does not see them. There appears to be either a great want of regulation or great neglect on the part of the authorities with whom the enforcement of the regulations exist: I know not whether these matters belong to the Captain of the Port or to the Civil Engineer. It is a subject which calls loudly for the interposition of the Government, as whatever superficial observers may think, it is certain that the losses occasioned will ultimately fall upon the inhabitants of these Provinces; and unless the matter is seriously taken up, it is to be feared that the Inner Roads will shortly be wholly destroyed as a place for vessels to remain with any degree of safety.

If the anchor of the Florida caused the brig Triton to sink, other accidents may happen from the same source, or from the ribs of the Agamemnon or Florida. The evil is of such a nature as to increase progressively, and I sincerely hope something will be done to counteract it. I remain, &c.

A CONSTANT READER.

To the Editor of the British Packet.

VALPARAISO, July 16, 1828.

SIR,—I observe in a letter of Mr. Joshua Waddington, published in a Supplement to your respectable paper of 31st May, that my name is made use of in a way that might lead to misapprehension in the minds of some of your readers, not well acquainted with the circumstances he treats of.

The passages in Mr. Waddington's letter I allude to, are the following:

"But the earnest solicitations of Mr. George Young, (partner in the house of Messrs. W. P. Robertson & Co. of Santiago de Chile,) added to his very solemn declaration that there did not exist in the possession of that house *any funds* the property of Messrs. Cochran & Robertson of Lima; and his offer to allow the inspection of Cochran & Robertson's account in the books of the Chile house," &c.

And he adds in another part of his letter that, notwithstanding all this, Mr. Wm. P. Robertson afterwards acknowledged \$6,830 to be due by the Chile house, "which Mr. Robertson's partner, Mr. Young, now equally confessed, whose statements and books on a previous occasion, did not exhibit any signs of such a debt!!"

As these gross and wilful misstatements on the part of Mr. Waddington have already gone forth to the public, I have to request that you will give equal publicity to the following exposition.

There was no such firm in Chile as William Parish Robertson & Co., and I never was partner of any other Commercial house than that of George Young & Co., which was formed subsequent to the period alluded to.

In January 1827, I declared to Messrs. Sewell & Patricson that I did not possess funds of Messrs. Cochran & Robertson; I now repeat that declaration to all the world;—twelve months afterwards I confessed that my books showed a balance in favour of Cochran & Robertson of upwards of \$6,000: and does it appear so strange to Mr. Waddington, that my account with the Lima house should fluctuate, when it was known to him that I was continued as Agent for that house, even after their affairs were placed in the hands of Commissioners? I beg to inform him that I had recovered considerable sums of money on their account, and received extensive consignments of goods from them during the intermediate period.

With the rest of Mr. Waddington's letter I have nothing to do, as the matter does not at all concern me, though the misstatements and suppression of facts contained in it are generally glaring. I am, Sir, your most ob't. serv't.

(Signed,)

Geo. Young.

To the Editor of the British Packet.

SIR,—There are some persons whom I could wish were to be advised through the medium of your paper, and seek the errors of others in their own want of right and method, ere they destroy the comfort, symmetry and design of this city: I think it would be a pity to lose a flourishing capital sillily; let the British Packet only think so too, and its pages will soon reveal those faults which are now forced on the attention of a liberal minded public. There are precepts already introduced, which only require example to bring them into practice; let the truth be told and tell who may, which is the better man, he who conquers an army of slaves or he who overcomes the prejudices of the mind. But seeing is believing—that there is Peace and that there are speculators none can deny; happy faces proclaim the former, whilst high priced ounces affirm the latter; therefore as no controversy can possibly ensue from what has been already said, I hope that no opposition whatever will be made to what remains to be done, viz.: Government must support Monte Grande: El Señor Garcia must accept of a place, and the English gentlemen Amateurs must give a play; but as the new Vauxhall to be enjoyed must be finished, and as the Plaza de San José to be finished must have a beginning, as well as the Water Works and other numerous improvements. I would by way of distinction, insinuate that pompous avisos be published in all papers and in every language, certifying that the old Theatre must be pulled down, and built again only by word of mouth: the Cathedral must be completed only by thinking of it, and the Mole must remain under water only to be overlooked. Thus whilst old houses are changed into schools, churches into museums, forts into palaces, and prisons into any thing, say, what are we to expect? why, that triangles will be made squares: crooked streets strait: pavements laid: pantanas filled up: lamps lighted: houses numbered; and every thing comfortless be made comfortable in the most agreeable manner possible, and all for a mere trifle—only the trouble of asking.

UN ALBAÑIL.

THEATRE.

On 22d inst. was performed the first act of the opera of *El Calife*. The boys again danced, and introduced some new figures: a groupe of them at different periods during the dance exhibited the words *Viva la Patria, Viva la Paz, Viva el pueblo Argentino*, with considerable effect; the second act of the opera of *Tancredi* followed. The house (considering that the weather looked threatening) was numerous, and from the number of carriages and other vehicles at the doors, we might add fashionably attended, including several of our interesting favorites.

At the representation of *Tancredi* on one of the *Funciones* in honor of Peace, an event happened, which ought not to pass without notice: the first act had gone off with great applause; an intimation was then given from the stage that the second act must be omitted, from the sudden indisposition of two of the performers—the audience immediately separated. We mention the circumstance in the shape of contrast as to what would have been the proceedings of a London audience upon a similar occasion.

. The National schr. brig of war Convencion, Captain Rosales, is to sail for Rio Janeiro about Monday next, and will take letters.

TO CARPENTERS.

WANTED, sixty Garden Seats, to pattern; those who may wish to contract to deliver them in November at a fixed price, may see the pattern at the *Jardin Argentino* (Vauxhall,) any morning early or afternoon next week, and present by Saturday their written tenders, which will be opened in presence of such as attend there on Sunday afternoon.

Genuine Madeira Wine.

FOR SALE, by the pipe or half pipe; it is nine years old, has been to India, and warranted the best ever introduced into this market for sale. Apply to GEORGE LORD, No. 124, calle de la Catedral.

NOTICE.

THE Chaplain of the British residents in this city being desirous of affording to the crews of the different merchant vessels in the Inner Roads, from time to time the opportunity of attending upon public worship, proposes to repair on board some vessel every Sunday as circumstances may permit for that purpose, and earnestly requests of all Captains to promote the attendance of their respective crews on such occasions. To-morrow (26th) divine service will be performed on board the *Scamander*, Capt. Ainley, at 2 o'clock, and continue to be performed on board the same vessel until further notice.

Advertisement.

WHEREAS the use of the British Episcopal Chapel having been kindly offered for the occasional performance of divine service according to the rites of the Established Church of Scotland, the Rev. Wm. Brown, Minister of the Scotch Settlement at Monte Grande, will celebrate public worship in the above Chapel, to-morrow evening, at 7 o'clock, and continue to do so, agreeably to the permission which has been granted to him.

German Ale Brewery,

Calle de Cordova No. 73, two squares from the river.

IN consequence of the agreeable tidings of Peace, the proprietor of this establishment has determined to serve henceforward the public with the above article at the rate of \$6 per dozen, provided the bottles be returned when empty, and a remuneration made to the person carrying it of one rial for each journey; persons who take six dozen at once are allowed 4 bottles gratis: four dozen 2 bottles, and three dozen 1 bottle. With regard to quality, the proprietor can assure the public that better has never been drunk in Buenos Ayres. ANTONIO MARTIN THYM.

PRICE OF SPECIE.

Doublons, 39½ á 40 dollars each.—Demand steady.
 Spanish and Patriot Dollars, 135 á 150 per cent. prem.—In considerable demand.
 Gold in bars, 20 quilates, 12½ á 14 rials per quilate.
 Silver in do. 11 dineros, 12½ á 13½ rials per dinero.
 Six per ct. Stock, 47½ á 48 dollars.—The demand limited, from the scarcity of money.
 Bank Shares, 180 á 185 dolls. each.—Steady.
 Exchange on England, 20d. per dollar.—The amount transacted this week has been about 10,000/. viz., 5000 at 21. and 5000 at 20; at present there are no drawers above 18½.
 Do. on Monte Video, 90 á 100 per cent. prem.—Considerable inquiry.
 Do. on Rio le Janeiro, 40 per ct. prem.—The demand more lively.
 Hides, ox, best quality, 9½ á 10 dollars per 35 lbs.
 Do Country, 8½ á 9 do. per do.
 Do Salted, 8½ á 9 dollars per pesado.
 Skins, nutria, 4 á 5 dollars per dozen.
 Do. chinchilla, 12 á 14 dollars per do.
 Beef, salted, 7 á 8 dolls. per quintal.
 In Manufactured Goods there is considerable demand, and several articles have advanced in price.

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