

THE

British Packet,

AND

ARGENTINE NEWS.

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No. 123.]

BUENOS AYRES, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1828.

[Vol. 3.]

DOMESTIC.

The general officers concerned in the military movement which displaced the Government of Señor Dorrego have published an explanatory address to their fellow citizens, the purport of which is as follows:

"That having sustained the honor of the Republic against its foreign enemies, they had to comply with a sacred duty even in the very bosom of the country, which having religiously fulfilled, it has become an obligation to give to the world an explanation of the motives which forced this measure upon them. The destinies of their unfortunate country was placed at the mercy of ambitious passions: the basis of the constitution was shaken, and the nation descended from the honourable and high station to which it had been elevated at the cost of so much labour and so many sacrifices. That the injustice and intrigues put in practice by the oppressors of the country were fully known, and had it only tended to endeavour to cast a blight upon the laurels gained by them, (the officers,) they would with pleasure have pardoned it, because posterity would have revenged them for such an outrage; but it was impossible to be insensible to the sufferings and degraded state of the country;—public feeling and their own patriotism forced them to re-establish with the sword the equilibrium which had been destroyed."

An appeal is then made to the people of the bad use which the late administration made of their power; the liberty of thought was in a manner destroyed, and the press shackled by oppressive laws: threats and the dagger imposed silence upon public writers: and the directors of the printing offices were persecuted with barbarity which had no example in the history of political excesses. Public opinion was thereby deprived of its accustomed mode of expressing its grievances, and all complaints were stifled.

In the choice of Representatives the established institutions of the country were placed at defiance, and the laws violated.

The persons in the employ of Government are equally censurable: merit served only as a pretext for irritating persecutions: rewards given to spies, &c.

Every thing was personal in the administration of Señor Dorrego; principles were violated at each step, and the march of an authority which never merited the name of such

nor the public confidence, was in consequence always uncertain and vacillating.

Señor Dorrego's conduct in seconding the pretensions of the Chiefs of the Provinces is censured, and the error committed in the selection of a Minister to the Government of Alto Peru is said to have exposed all the Republic to ridicule.

The public treasury was the object of the most shameful and barefaced pillage; it defrayed the expense incurred by the Chiefs of some of the Provinces, in order to foment and sustain their anarchial pretensions. It likewise served to recompense the adhesion of various individuals to the person of the Governor, &c.: and supplied an infamous grant of money made to Señores Dorrego, Rojas, and the members of the Legation to Brazil.

The public credit was verging to ruin by imprudent operations, ruinous loans, &c.

The National Bank suffered distinct attacks from the Government and its Legislature: its charter violated: its privileges invaded—the circulating medium thereby brought into discredit, and a mortal blow given to an establishment which has sustained for so long a period the honor and the existence of the country.

The army was disregarded: the soldiers in the last campaign naked and without pay: its fate and the hopes of all the Republic placed a thousand times in danger, in order to keep at its head a General who did not possess the least knowledge of the art of war; and whilst the soldiers were suffering with resignation all sorts of miseries, the public money was prodigally wasted in this capital, for the purpose of enriching a few individuals.

The House of Representatives of the Province, instead of occupying themselves in remedying the public ills, were solely engaged in endeavouring to aggrandize the individual to whom they owed their existence; scarcely one measure of public utility had taken place in the Province during the period of their session; it had not a single point of contact with the people: was deaf to their complaints, and the conduct of the Government was seconded in every part by this degraded body.

This is an imperfect sketch of the terrible evils which have happened under the administration which has fallen, and the motives which justify their (the officers) interference in the political affairs of the Province; that they were not the

authors of the change which had been witnessed, they being only the instruments of the public will.

Having fulfilled the sacred and patriotic duties imposed upon them, their future conduct should be in submission to the laws, and obedience to the elected authorities, and never again to take up arms for the purpose of interfering in political affairs, hoping that under an administration more beneficent and popular, scandalous excesses would not be repeated, and the good of the country only consulted; that the guarantee for their sincerity is the patriotic enthusiasm which has made them so many times despise death on the field of battle: their swords will not sustain any other cause but that of principles, to re-establish which they have yielded to public opinion; and now that they have left in the hands of the people all the resources of power, order will be maintained by the laws without the necessity of their intervention.

The document concludes in expressing the officers' deference to the constituted authorities, and is dated Buenos Ayres, 6th December, 1828, and signed by Felix Olazabal, Isaac Thompson, Juan Pedernera, Manuel Correa, Pedro J. Diaz José O'avarria, Sixto Quesada, Anacleto Vega, Juan Apostol Martinez.

The above contains some serious charges against Señor Dorrego and his Government: and those whose province it is to defend him are silent from the circumstances of the times.

In the *Mercantile Gazette* of 9th instant appears a communication from the late Minister, Don Tomas Guido, upon the events of the 1st instant, and upon some remarks contained in *El Tiempo*, No. 175. It states that General Martinez was commissioned from himself and General Balcarce to seek an interview with General Lavalle: and that they had addressed a letter to the House of Representatives to the following effect:—

“Buenos Ayres, December 1st, 1828.

“The undersigned Generals regret to inform the Hon. House of Representatives that a part of the army belonging to this garrison have (without the orders of the Government,) taken possession of the Plaza de la Victoria.

“The undersigned are as yet ignorant of the pretensions of the officers who are in command of the said force: but the undersigned in discharge of their responsibility place themselves entirely at the disposition of the Honorable House, not only because the present state of the city demands that prompt measures should be taken on the part of the Hon. Representatives of the people, but from the circumstance of the Governor having absented himself since half past 4 this morning, stating that he proposed to take means to re-establish order.

“The undersigned wait the decision of the Hon. House, and in the mean time will faithfully discharge their duties.

“The undersigned respectfully salute the Honorable Representatives.

TOMAS GUIDO,
JUAN RAMON BALCARCE.

“General Martinez returned from the commission accom-

panied by Doctor Don Manuel Gallardo, authorized by General Lavalle to give the necessary explanations: he stated that the force in the Plaza came to protect the rights of the people; and as the authorities had ceased to act, an arrangement ought to be made to unite both forces to preserve public order. The Minister of Government frankly informed Dr. Gallardo in presence of General Martinez the opinion he held relative to the late military movement and of its consequences, and that the troops in the Fort would not place themselves at the disposal of any other authority but that which emanated from the Hon. House of Representatives of the Province, and in default thereof of that named by the free and spontaneous will of the people—the only fountain of legitimate power.

“Señor Gallardo to whom the Minister read the note addressed to the House of Representatives, seemed to acquiesce in the line of conduct adopted by the Ministers.

“Time advanced, and some trifling incidents between the troops of both parties presented disagreeable symptoms, which might have led to consequences fatal to the interests of all, and contrary to the wish of those at the head of the troops. It was resolved to seek an interview with General Lavalle, to come to some agreement, in order to save as much as possible the credit of the country; and the army (who have covered themselves with honor in their conflict with the common enemy,) from staining themselves with the blood of their brothers and companions in arms.”

Then follow some observations relative to the detention by General Lavalle of the letter addressed to the House of Representatives, of which Major Artayeta was the bearer, and the incidents noticed in our last number which led to an amicable arrangement; and a letter from Don Tomas Guido commenting upon the affair of the 1st inst. and upon some remarks in the *Tiempo*: he states that he is ready to answer to the law for his conduct not only on that day but during the short period of two months in which he formed part of the Ministry; that he will yield to no one in zeal for the institutions and glory of his country, or in true patriotism and love of liberty—sentiments which makes him bitterly regret seeing his name coupled in the criminations directed against the administration in which he served, not only with purity of conduct, personal independence and sincerity, but in the full confidence that whatever errors and abuses of power might have existed, would be remedied sooner or later by legal means.

A decree of General Lavalle, provisional Governor of the Province, dated 6th inst., appointed Admiral Brown to the command of the civil and military Government of the Province during his (Lavalle's) absence in the country.

The following proclamations have been issued:—

“Fellow Countrymen: The preservation of public order calls me to the country: rash men are endeavouring to oppose force to reason and to your wishes; they will soon perceive their nullity, the Republican army having sworn that your rights shall triumph.

“Fellow Countrymen: It belongs to you to sustain the

tranquillity of this great people: your exertions are necessary when the well being of the country is interested.

"The brave Admiral Brown is left in charge of the capital—his name alone recommends him to your gratitude and esteem.

JUAN LAVALLE.

Buenos Ayres, December 6th, 1828.

Argentines: In taking upon myself the command of this heroic people, it has been with the conviction that your efforts and civic virtues will be sufficient to save the country, and secure its glory and dignity.

"The brave army have marched to finish the work which you have so gloriously begun, and to insure the repose of the worthy inhabitants of the country.

Fellow Citizens: The public order will be confided to your zeal, and be assured that on every occasion the General who now has the honor of presiding will know how to make your rights be respected, and to preserve the glory and the renown of the grand Argentine people.

WILLIAM BROWN.

Buenos Ayres, 7th December, 1828.

In the afternoon of 6th instant, about 700 of the cavalry lately returned from campaigning, and commanded by the Provisional Governor (General Lavalle,) left the city to act against the forces of the Ex-Governor (Dorrego,) and Don Manuel Rosas. They made a good appearance, and were well clad; indeed when they disembarked from the Banda Oriental they were much better clothed than many European armies we have seen return from foreign service.

In the afternoon of 10th instant a bulletin was published, containing a hasty despatch from General Lavalle to the Delegate Governor, (Admiral Brown,) announcing the defeat of Col. Dorrego's force on the 9th inst.: and some further observations from an individual who was in the battle, that Dorrego and Rosas fled upon the same horses which they had rode in the action, were closely pursued, &c.: that the blood which has been shed will fall upon them alone, and augment the immense load of accusations laid to their charge: that the iniquitous projects of these men, born for the misfortune of their country, have been destroyed; and that all tyrants may thus learn that to despise public opinion, and insult its citizens will sooner or later be punished, &c. &c.

On the 11th instant was published the official detail of the above action, in a communication from General Lavalle to the Minister J. M. Diaz Velez, dated *Navarro, December 10, 1828*, of which the following are the particulars:

"On the 8th the cavalry arrived in the neighbourhood of Cañuelas. The force of Colonel Dorrego consisting of more than 1500 men had halted near the lake of Lobos; wishing to settle the question without the effusion of blood, Colonel Madrid was despatched with a letter from General Lavalle to Colonel Dorrego, and the cavalry of the former marched to Capilla Nueva, but at eight at night advanced towards Navarro. Colonel Dorrego wished to avoid combat, and to keep open his communication with the forces in the North, his aim being to retreat; but the movement made by General

Lavalle, and Col. Rauch presenting himself at 8 o'clock on the morning of the 9th with a reconnoitring party upon the left flank of Col. Dorrego's forces, obliged him to fight; about the same time Col. Madrid returned to Gen. Lavalle, having had an interview with Señor Rosas, and received from him a verbal and evasive answer. Gen. Lavalle's cavalry advanced to the attack in five columns; Col. Medina who commanded the first, was wounded by the fire of the Guerrillas: Col. Rauch who succeeded him, charged the extreme left of Col. Dorrego, routing all that opposed him; Col. Madrid at the head of the second column, and Col. Juan Apostol Martínez at the third, charged in line, receiving the fire of four pieces of artillery, served by veteran artillerymen, which they took, cutting to pieces the squadrons near them; Col. Vega who commanded the fourth column, made a charge with equal success. 200 Indians who endeavoured to outflank the left of General Lavalle's troops were repulsed with great loss by Col. Olavarría at the head of 100 of the 16th lancers. This completed the rout of Col. Dorrego's force; they fled and dispersed in all directions, without more than fifty men keeping together, having lost 100 men; 200 militiamen were taken, and after being disarmed, set at liberty. The loss in General Lavalle's army consisted of Capt. Cosío of the 3d, and 3 soldiers killed and 22 wounded; Lt. Col. Olmos was wounded, and Col. Rauch received a slight contusion."

The despatch concludes by stating that as not more than thirty of the fugitives are united in any part, it is not the intention to move the cavalry from Navarro, but that if any of the disciples of Artigas should make their appearance, they will be quickly punished, as the cavalry will not for the future encounter the obstacles for the want of horses, which has retarded the operations just concluded.

[Copy of the letter sent to Col. Dorrego.]

DECEMBER 8TH, 1828.

"The Provisional Governor of the Province, elevated to that post by the public voice of the capital, desirous to terminate without the effusion of blood the work commenced on the 1st instant, has sent to Colonel Don Manuel Dorrego, an officer of equal rank Col. Don G. A. de la Madrid, who is authorized to give whatever personal guarantees may be required by the chiefs and others of the assemblage.

JUAN LAVALLE.

A private letter from the Governor states that the regiment of Blandenguez with its commandant has placed itself under his orders.

In the details published by Government it is stated that one hundred and fifty men of the 1st regiment of country militia collected by Major Charles Bowness, and intended to join Col. Dorrego, had dispersed and gone to their homes.

One hundred and ten men (infantry and artillery) with five officers, left town on Thursday for Navarro.

Two proclamations from General Lavalle (Governor *Interino*.) to the inhabitants in the country were published yesterday. We have not room to give extracts from them.

for respectable citizens to appear, and all this passed in the sight of the Justices of Peace and the Police. The citizens petitioned, but the House of Representatives was deaf to the complaints of five hundred respectable individuals; from that day Buenos Ayres was not represented—no legislative body existed.

"Personal security likewise received repeated attacks under the administration of Señor Dorrego; for the first time in Buenos Ayres a party of assassins assaulted peaceable citizens publicly in mid-day, and even by the side of the Police office, because their opinions were contrary to those of the authorities, and these atrocious acts were connived at by the authorities.

"The liberty of the Press—as it is the first bulwark of all other liberties, so it is the first enemy of all those who wish to destroy it; Señor Dorrego and his Government are charged with violating it in every respect.

"The Finances—mismanaged and perverted, serving to enrich individuals of the administration, and the Governments of the Provinces, &c.: large sums of money in the public funds given as a reward to those who negotiated the Peace, when in fact they had only fulfilled their duty: and 100,000 dollars lent without interest to a particular Minister who had become bankrupt, pretending that his bankruptcy was occasioned by his attention to State affairs; added to this, the speculations and illicit gains by the treasury, rejecting the offers of individuals to supply the Government with necessary articles at a reduced rate, and allowing others to sell stores, &c. to the State at exorbitant prices.

"While the public treasury was thus dilapidated, a fatal blow was given to the public credit, in failing to pay debts the most sacred and compromises the most binding; the treasure squandered away might have paid the said debts, and sustained the credit of the country."

The conduct of the Government in respect to the Bank is then commented upon, and the disorganized state of the Custom house—the receipts diminished, smuggling encouraged, &c. The imprudence of the late Government on the announcement of Peace, producing the bankruptcy of several of the principal mercantile houses, and the consequent distress to various classes.

"Corruption reigned in the tribunals of justice: it was necessary to negotiate for and to purchase justice, from the indiscretion of Government in appointing persons to offices which they were incapable of fulfilling.

"The Government gave rise to the insecurity of the frontiers, having disorganized the regiment of Col. Rauch, to free itself from the fears which it entertained from that officer; the Indians who had often felt the lash of this Chief, thereby took courage, assembled, again ravaged the Province, &c.

"The National squadron dismembered: part of the vessels sent privateering for personal interests, and thus debilitating the public service. Since General Lavalleja had been appointed to the command of the army, which had given so many days of glory to the country, it had remained inactive; owing to the imbecility of its Chief, the campaign had concluded without a single advantage gained; nakedness and

misery were the companions of those heroes, and the Government did not extend its hand to succour them."

A series of comments then follow upon the above allegations, and upon the movement of the 1st December. This document occupies ten close columns of the *Tiempo* newspaper, and is dated 5th December, 1828, and signed by Juan Lavalle and José Miguel Diaz Velez.

Colonel Don Manuel Dorrego, Ex-Governor and Captain General of the Province of Buenos Ayres, arrived at the head quarters of General Lavalle (the Provisional Governor) at 1 o'clock in the afternoon of the 13th instant, escorted by fifty men of the regiment of huzzars, commanded by Colonel Rauch, (a German officer in this service,) and in two hours afterwards was shot. The provisional Governor announced this event in the following terms:

"Navarro, December 13th, 1828.

"Señor Minister,—I advise the delegate Governor that Colonel Don Manuel Dorrego has just been shot by my order, in front of the regiments which compose this division.

"History, Señor Minister, will judge impartially whether Colonel Dorrego has deserved to die or not, and whether in sacrificing him for the tranquillity of a people whom he has placed in mourning, I could have had any other sentiment but that of the public good.

"Let the inhabitants of Buenos Ayres be convinced that the death of Colonel Dorrego is the greatest sacrifice that I could make in its favour. Saluting the Señor Minister, I remain, &c.,

"JUAN LAVALLE.

H. E. the Minister of Government, Dr. Don José Miguel Diaz Velez."

The following letter appeared in the *Gaceta Mercantil* of 16th instant:

"Having read in No. 183 of the *Tiempo*, published on Saturday last, a paragraph in which speaking of the capture of Señor Dorrego, it states that it took place in the division under my command. Of this there was only the regiment of huzzars, and 100 men of the 2d, the rest of the corps being in march towards their cantonments. Lieut Col. Escribano caused the apprehension by disgraceful perfidy: it was not in my power to hinder it. Those acts have always been viewed by me as unworthy of an officer, whose device ought to be honor and generosity. I remain, &c.,

"ANGEL PACHECO."

Colonel A. Pacheco was arrested on the same day by the order of Government, and conveyed on board the brig of war Balcarse.

We have not translated the proclamations noticed in our last from the Provisional Governor (General Lavalle) to the inhabitants in the country. They spoke of the delinquencies and ambition of the late Governor: that individual has now gone to his "account," and if he

"Was ambitious,
It was a grievous fault, and
Grievously he hath answered it."

It is necessary to observe that not a single article has yet appeared in the public prints or otherwise, in answer to the accusations made against the Ex-Governor and his Government: and we chiefly mention this in order that it may serve as a reply to a letter which we have received under the signature of *Fair Play*: and to assure this correspondent that when any defence is published, we shall not fail to translate its contents to the *British Packet*. In the mean time nothing shall tempt us to mingle in the domestic disputes of this country, and whatever comments we may now and then hazard, we trust they will never partake of party spirit.

The brother of the late unfortunate Ex-Governor issued during the week the following advertisement:

"The undersigned brother of the late Don Manuel Dorrego intreats his friends to assist on Friday, 19th inst. in the church of St. Francisco, at half past 8 to 9 in the morning, to honor the memory of his said brother, and to beseech the Almighty for the repose of his soul, in the funeral service which his affection consecrates to him.

"This notice is intended to serve as an invitation to all—it being made to none in particular. LUIS DORREGO.

Buenos Ayres, December 16th, 1828."

A crowded congregation attended the above solemnities yesterday at St. Francisco's church, amongst whom were some of the first and most reputable families of this city; the music and choirs were excellent. Near the altar sat Don Juan Ramon Balcarce, Don Tomas Guido, Don Manuel Garcia, &c. &c. The brother of the deceased, Don Luis Dorrego, officiated as chief mourner, and attracted considerable attention. The scene altogether was very impressive, and did not conclude until past 12 o'clock. The friars of St. Francisco at the conclusion of the ceremonies took their usual station in front of the chief entrance to the church.

An embargo was placed on the port in the afternoon of the 11th and taken off on the 12th inst.

Tuesday last was a day of sultry heat; in the evening the river was crowded with bathers of both sexes.

It is reported that the routed forces of the late Ex-Governor have collected in various parts, and committed some outrages: and that the Convention in Santa Fé, when they heard of the change effected in the Government of this Province had authorized the Governor of Santa Fé to assist, in order to re-establish order if necessary.

The Brazilians have in part evacuated Monte Video; the Custom house and Post office are given up to the new authorities, and Señor Mello appointed Provisional Governor.

General Rondeau (appointed Governor of the Banda Oriental,) and suite embarked after sun-set on Monday evening on board the brig of war of that name, and sailed on Tuesday for Colonia and Monte Video. A salute was heard from the former port on Tuesday evening, supposed in honor of his arrival.

The Sarandi fired a salute upon her arrival in the Inner Roads; the officers report that they received the greatest attention both at Rio Janeiro and St. Catherines. She has brought from the former port 5 officers, viz., Messrs. Kearney, M'Carthy, Gard, Johnson, and Render,

In article 4 in the declaration by Peru of blockade of the Colombian ports, it states that any vessel arriving after the expiration of the term allowed, and having on board any kind of arms, ammunition, provisions, naval stores, or other articles that may enable the enemy to carry on the war, she will be sent to Callao for adjudication.

5. If any vessel after being duly informed of the blockade, and having her register endorsed, should afterwards attempt to enter a blockaded port, she will be likewise sent to Callao.

A letter from Liverpool dated 4th October, states that the British brig Caraboo, which had been taken by a pirate brig, had arrived at the Island of St. Eustatia, and had been claimed by the Governor of St. Christopher's. Part of the cargo had been landed, and the pirate crew had escaped.

Further extracts from the *Jornal do Comercio* of Rio Janeiro, respecting the late Treaty of Peace.

"The treaty of peace has occasioned in this court the proper rejoicings, but without enthusiasm, and in this the inhabitants have shewn their good sense.

"This same peace which in Buenos Ayres has given rise to so many demonstrations of joy and national exultation, is considered amongst us as an indispensable sacrifice to the real interests of the nation—its consolidation and prosperity.

"No doubt we had some resources left to carry on the war, and perhaps could have eventually overturned Buenos Ayres, but what benefit would it have been to have seen our enemy expiring when we should have been reduced to that feeble state as to be almost past recovery.

"Our moderation therefore was nothing but generosity with a tenacious enemy, who preferred to perish rather than give up his point. We being the strongest and best organized, gave the example of good judgment and humanity, by putting a stop to the contest, prolonged by the irritation of the parties, but which had no fixed end; and because of the organization of the federal system in the Argentine Republic she presented herself as an Hydra, and the cutting off one of its heads would have availed nothing to us.

"To fight on this side of the Atlantic merely for the sake of conquest is madness; we can all live comfortable on this happy continent, and the only war that might be carried on is that of virtue and patriotism.

"When the people therefore saw the Emperor at the theatre they thanked him for the sacrifices he had made, preferring the name of the father of his people to that of a soldier: and hinted that nature had prevented him and the Empire from acquiring warlike laurels by placing us in contact with a nation that makes its war consist more in the inroads of Gaucho's, and expeditions in the Arabian fashion, than scientific manœuvres."

On 22d October two officers were shot at Santiago de Chile for having been engaged in an attempt at revolution.

A project of law for the liberty of the press has been presented to the Chili Congress; the infringement of any of its articles to be tried by a jury.



MARINE LIST.



PORT OF BUENOS AYRES.

Dec. 13—Wind N. E.

Arr. National schr. of war Sarandi, Chalmers, last from St. Catherine's 11 days; a zumaca and several small craft from the Northward.

Dec. 14—Wind N.

Arr. 10 sail of small craft from the Northward. Sailed, French brig Louisa, Lamont, Bourdeau, hides; do. L'Augusté, Couter, Havre de Grace, do; do. Delta, Ronis, Monte Video ballast; do. Asiatique, Brest, do. do.; Am. schr. brig Celeno, Frazier, Baltimore, hides.

Dec. 15—Wind N.

Arr. Nat. schr. Packets Felicidad del Sud, and Flor del Rio; Brazilian do. Oriental Argentino, all from Monte Video on 13th with cargoes, letters, and passengers.

Dec. 16—Wind N.

Arr. Neapolitan ship Fortunata Palermitana, Luce, Valparaiso 4th Nov.—called at Monte Video for a pilot: cargo 317 pipes wine, sulphar and other efforts, and upon Government account 23 pieces of cannon, 16,518 balls, stores, &c. &c. She was captured (having Brazilian property on board.) by the late National brig of war Congress, captain Fournier. Passengers from Valparaiso, Messrs. Bornefeld and Berckemeyer.

Sailed, British barque Packet Goldfinch, Walkia, Monte Video, Rio Janeiro and Falmouth; British brig Alexander, Laine, Monte Video and Rio Janeiro; Nat. brigs of war General Rondeau, and Federal; schrs. do. Argentina and 9th February, for Colonia and Monte Video; Br. schr. brig Mitford, Taylor, London, hides; Nat. schr. of war Sarandi, Martinez, (acting,) for Monte Video Passenger, Captain Rosales.

Dec. 17—Wind S., blowing strong.

Arr. Nat. schr. brig of war 29th December, from Salado; Nat. schr. Francisco, Monte Video; Brazilian zumaca Clara Maria, Rio Grande 12th inst., timber, to F. A. Pereyra.

Sailed, National cutter Louisa, for Monte Video.

Dec. 18—Wind E., blowing strong.

Arr. Am. brig Corporal Trim, Davis, Boston 2d October, general cargo, to Zimmermann, Frazier & Co. Spoke on the 17th inst. off Point Indio, British brig Mitford, from this for London.

Dec. 19—Wind N. E.

Arr. Am. brig James Laurence, Tear fm. Philadelphia 2d October, general cargo. Zimmermann, Frazier & Co.; Nat. schr. brig Monte Alegre, Cuneo, Monte Video yesterday, to Gestal.

Sailed, British barque Eliza Dick, Wylie, Monte Video, in ballast; Sardinian brig Juno, Lanfranca, Gibraltar, hides; British schr. Pilchard, Robertson, Monte Video; National zumaca Luisa, Monte Video and Bahia; do. schr. packet Libertad del Sud, Centopé, M. Video.

The British packet Goldfinch from this got aground behind the Mount of Monte Video (Santa Lucia) on the night of the 16th inst. She is stated to have got off again, and gone into Monte Video yesterday.

The British brig Niagara from Liverpool arrived at Monte Video on 16th instant.

The ship Melpomene, from this 10th, arrived at Monte Video 15th inst., and intended to take in some ballast at that port; she was aground for a short time off the Atalaya church, but got off again without the least damage.

A Dutch ship was to sail from Valparaiso for Buenos Ayres about 15th ultimo.

THEATRE.

During the last week no opera performances have been given; the *Barber of Seville* was advertised, but postponed. It is said that a new arrangement is about to take place in the operatic company. These delightful representations have not become "Caviare to the multitude;" the times may be *triste*, but they will mend.

ADVERTISEMENT.

INTIMATION is hereby made to the Scotch Presbyterians resident in Buenos Ayres, and all others whom it may concern, that a public meeting will be held in Faunch's hotel on Monday evening, the 22d inst., at 8 o'clock, for the purpose of consulting on the most advisable steps to be taken with the view of procuring the stated and permanent services of a clergyman of the Established Church of Scotland, when the friends of the measure contemplated are respectfully solicited to attend.

PRICE OF SPECIE.

Doublons, 65 dollars each.—The purchases made this week have been considerable, and caused a gradual advance.

Spanish and Patriot Dollars, 285 á 300 per cent. prem.—Considerable demand, and very scarce.

Gold in bars, 20 quilates, 19 á 20 rials per quilate.—Very scarce, and few transactions made this week.

Silver in do. 11 dineros, 19 á 19½ rials per dinero.—Very scarce, and few transactions made this week.

Plata Macuquina, 260 á 275 per ct. prem.—Much inquiry, and considerable sales effected.

Six per ct. Stock, 50 á 51 dollars.—Sales to a very large extent effected, principally owing to contracts.

Bank Shares, 185 á 190 dollars each.—Considerable inquiry, and but few sellers.

Exchange on England, 12d. per doll.—Nominal; the business has been very trifling: a little was done at 14, 13½ and 13, but at present no drawers.

Do. on Rio de Janeiro, 65 á 70 per ct. prem.—Scarce.

Do. on Monte Video, 225 á 230 per ct. prem.—Scarce, and in great demand.

Hides, ox, best quality, 15 á 15½ dollars per 35 lbs.—Considerable demand, and large purchases made.

Do country, 14 á 14½ do. per do.—Much demand, and large purchases.

Do salted, 12½ á 13½ dolls. per 35 lbs.—In demand: large purchases made.

Skins, chinchilla, 20 dolls. per dozen.

Do. nutria, 6 á 7 dolls. per do.

Hair, horse, 11½ á 12 dolls. per arroba.

Horns, 125 á 140 dollars per m.

Discount, 2 per ct per month.

Flour, 40 á 42 dollars per bbl.