

THE
British Packet,
AND
ARGENTINE NEWS.

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BUENOS AYRES, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 20, 1828.

[Vol. 3.]

FOREIGN.

UNITED STATES.

By the last advices from North America it appears that the contest for the Presidential chair is continued on both sides with great vigour, and from the newspapers it is impossible to judge which will be the successful candidate, as each party seems sanguine. The Southern and Western States are in favour of General Jackson: the Eastern States wish the re-election of Mr. Adams. The result of the election we believe, to be declared on the 1st December, and the inauguration is to be on the 4th March. The newspapers opposed to General Jackson have been very severe not only upon his general character, but upon the danger of having a military man at the head of the Republic; in *Poulson's American Daily Advertiser* of September 20th, 1828, published at Philadelphia, is the following amusing fable in allusion to the subject:

THE SWORD AND THE PEN.

A FABLE.

It happened on a certain occasion that a sword and a pen, which were lying near to each other in an apartment of a large house, fell into conversation together, in which each of them endeavoured to magnify its own importance. "I wonder," said the sword, "that you pretend to compare yourself with me. Have I not defended our country from her enemies, conquered foreign territories, and preserved the government from domestic traitors? Does not the glory of the nation depend altogether upon me; and without me what would become even of its independence? Men may do very well without you, but without me there would be perpetual anarchy; surely then I am better entitled than you to the chief place in this house." "I grant," replied the pen, "that you have performed warlike services, and that so long as wars and fightings continue, there will be occasion for your assistance. But men are not always at war, and in time of peace of what use are you? You can neither dig the garden like a spade, nor turn up the ground like a plough, nor carve like a knife, nor sew like a needle. Besides, you are quite as often used against your own country as in its behalf. How many times have you not been drawn against the liberties of your country? How often have you assisted great generals in assuming the supreme power? How many widows and orphans have been clothed in mourning in consequence

of your tyrannical exercise of authority." (Here the sword started a little from its scabbard.) "I do not wish to hurt your feelings," continued the pen, "and therefore shall not dwell particularly on certain passages of your life. For my own part I do not wish to vaunt of my own merits, but I must needs say that where you confer one benefit on one country I bestow twenty. Men are naturally so afraid of you that they keep you in a scabbard, except when there is actual occasion for your services, whereas I am always at large and in use. By my writings I keep alive the spirit of liberty, and direct the attention of men to their best interests. In all countries I have mainly been on the side of freedom, religion, and morals; and it is only when you have been drawn from your scabbard that I have been silenced, and liberty vanquished. You allude to your defending the country from invasion, but I should like to know whether a country in which I was neglected, would be worth defending. You may save it once in a life time by some great battle, but I preserve it daily by the silent influence of my labours."

Here a glow-worm who chanced to be near interposed:—"Gentlemen," said he, "I think I can throw some light upon this subject. You are both in a measure right, and both wrong; the sword is entitled to command on the field of battle, but on all other occasions and in all other places the pen ought to have precedence. Each of you is entitled to respect in his proper calling, but out of it each of you would probably become ridiculous; my friend the sword, had better for his own credit remain in his scabbard until he is called out in defence of his country: and I would advise my friend the pen, not to affect any acquaintance with military affairs, but to confine himself to his legitimate sphere of civil government and philosophy."

MORAL.

The glow-worm was certainly right. Government is a very complicated machine, which requires much more wisdom and abilities to direct it than do the operations of an army; the genius and learning which are suitable for the one will hardly answer for the other, except in a despotic government, which resembles a great camp, and is as it were, always governed by martial law. In Republics however, the direction of civil affairs ought always to be in the hands of civil men, who are tender of the liberties of the citizen, and well informed of the science of politics;—and so history teacheth by divers examples.

COLOMBIA AND PERU:

Should the war between Colombia and Peru continue, it seems probable that the Republic of Bolivia will take an active part. A long letter has been addressed by the Bolivian Minister (Olaneta,) to the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Colombian Republic, in answer to the assertion of Bolivar in his declaration of war against Peru, that the army of the latter State had entered Bolivia in defiance of established forms and international rights. He states that Bolivia had contracted no obligation to Colombia: on the contrary she had been kept in vassalage by that power; and having liberated herself from a domination so abominable, and formed a National Government, she was resolved to sustain it at all hazards,—determined not to be the patrimony of any person, nor the colony of any American State, and abhors the title given to her by Colombia of *beloved daughter*. That in the war now declared, Peru having justice on her side, and the danger that will accrue to Bolivia should the Colombian troops again occupy Peru, has determined her (Bolivia) to co-operate in the war, and render all the assistance in her power to resist the despotism and aggressions of Colombia, &c. &c.

The officers of the Bolivian army second the above resolution, declaring themselves ready to undergo any privation in a contest undertaken upon principles so just and honourable.

The Peruvian General, Gamarra, has addressed a letter to the Bolivian Minister for Foreign Affairs: it chiefly relates to the late occurrences, which rescued Bolivia from foreign dominion, the share which the Peruvian army took in that affair, and that the said army was now retiring to its own territory.

A band of one hundred and fifty men is committing some outrages in Bolivia under the pretext of re-establishing the authority of Ferdinand VII.; they are commanded by a person who is denominated in the Bolivian newspaper *El Nacional*, as the execrable Aguilera, whose atrocious conduct and crimes are well known to the Bolivians. A force has been sent against him.

DOMESTIC.

The intelligence of the proceedings in this city on the 1st instant has caused great sensation in Cordova. A project was presented to the Junta of that Province by one of its members, (Lazcano,) and we believe immediately passed, to unite in the person of the Governor (Bustos,) the Legislative, Executive, and Judiciary authorities. Bustos has issued a proclamation, dated *Cordova, December 10th, 1828*, stating that "liberty is threatened by a factious party: that the man who caused the anarchical movement of 1st inst. in Buenos Ayres is the same who so many times has had the audacity to assert that *he should never be satiated with spilling the blood of the Provincialists*. Those who have been guilty of the scandalous act of deposing the Governor General, constituted so by the general vote of the Provinces, placing themselves at the head of the troops who had been destined to assert the honor of the Republic, are the same who in 1814

requested from Charles IV. a branch of the House of Bourbon to be King over us: are the same who in 1815 protested to the Count de Casa Flores, the Spanish Ambassador in Rio Janeiro, that if they had interposed in American affairs, it had been with the object of better assuring the rights of His Catholic Majesty in this part of America; they are the same who in 1816 would have sold us to Don John VI., then Prince Regent of Portugal; they are the same who in 1819 would have sold us to the Prince of Lucca; finally, they are the authors of all the misfortunes of America."

The proclamation concludes thus:—

Fellow Countrymen: It is time that justice should occupy the place of mercy; sustain your rights if you wish to be free: chastise the wicked men who have dared to provoke us, and appear with true dignity."

Bustos on the same day, 10th instant, addressed a letter to the Governor of Santa Fé, to the following effect:—That the anarchical proceeding in Buenos Ayres on 1st inst., led by General Lavalle, is a practical lesson to the Provinces of what they are to expect from this direful club, whose wish is to exterminate all beneficent institutions, always accustomed to put the country in conflagration by means of calumny, intrigue, &c.; they could not support with patience the tranquillity which reigned in the Provinces. They had despoiled Don Manuel Dorrego not only of the Government of the Province of Buenos Ayres, but also of the National Executive, with which the Provinces had invested him.

This event is undoubtedly the first signal for civil war; that this party wish to deprive the Provinces of their rights, and alludes to the quantity of American blood which has been spilled to sustain the President Rivadavia, whose existence in that post was reprobated by all the Provinces: and that the impunity which had followed the anterior acts had rendered them in aptitude to undertake any thing which might favour their views."

The Governor of Santa Fé (Lopez,) has issued a circular to the different Provinces, dated 9th December, 1828, upon the movement in this city on the 1st instant, stating that it is necessary to attack in its origin the evils which threaten not only the Province of Buenos Ayres but all the Republic, which will be involved in miseries if the system of the Unitarians is suffered to prevail: and that the salvation and security of the country demands that this system should be put aside and exterminated.

The Governor of Entre Rios (Sola,) in answer to the above under date of 10th instant, agrees in the necessity of acting with promptitude to avert the evils which threaten them from the late military movement in Buenos Ayres, of which Don Carlos Alvear and Don Juan Lavalle are stated to be at the head, and that he (the Governor) is ready to act with considerable force.

Buenos Ayres, December 22d, 1828.

"The melancholy consequences which have been, and are still produced upon the prosperity of the Province, and especially to commerce, by the law of 30th April in the present year, relative to the form and manner in which contracts

made before the 9th of January, 1826, are to be complied with and paid in specie, have in preference attracted the attention of Government, to restrain an evil which tends completely to ruin the credit of the country, and destroy the nature and force of the circulating medium,—introducing uncertainty and disorder in all transactions and valuations, and consequently to all private fortunes. The circumstances of the country, and the urgency of the evil, does not permit the Government to defer this affair until the meeting of the Legislature: therefore, in exercise of the powers vested in it, and from the actual situation of the Province, has ordered and decreed:—

Art. 1. The effects of the law of 30th April, 1823, are suspended until the Legislature meets, and determines what is proper to be done in this respect.

2. The law of 5th May, 1826, stating the Bank notes to be the current money in all the territory of the Republic, is declared in full force and vigour: and the decree of the National Government of the 10th of the same month and year, regulating the execution of the said law, and declaring that all contracts which infers an obligation to pay a quantity of money, would be always legally complied with, if delivered in the current money of the State.

3. Let this be communicated to the Tribunals of Justice and Commerce.

Brown.

José Manuel Diaz Velez."

The Provincial Government have ordered General Soler (who had reached Cordova on his route to Bolivia to fulfil his mission as Minister Plenipotentiary,) to suspend his journey.

A Government decree of 19th inst. announces that Don Manuel Rosas being no longer in command of the militia of this Province, the officers are not to obey any commands that may emanate from him.

The following letters have been published from General Paz:

"Paso de Pachi, Santa Lucia, Dec. 14, 1823.

"The undersigned General has received the Señor Minister's note of 4th inst., enclosing the *Acta* celebrated by the people assembled in the church of St. Francisco on the 1st, advising him of the change in the administration, and requesting it to be made known to the division under his command, which has been done, and the Provisional Government of Buenos Ayres has been recognized by the Auxiliary Argentine division.

JOSE MARIA PAZ."

"Paso de Pachi, December 16, 1823.

"The undersigned General has received the bulletins, &c., detailing the events which have occurred since the change effected on 1st instant. They have been transmitted to the division under his command, and received by them with pleasure and even enthusiasm; felicitations is offered in the name of all to the Government of the Province of Buenos Ayres, for events which insures its internal tranquillity—promising the re-establishment of those institutions of which they are so justly proud.

JOSE MARIA PAZ."

Copy of a letter which the Ex-Governor wrote to his lady previous to his execution:—

My beloved Angelita,—It has been just intimated to me that within an hour I must die:—I am ignorant for what cause, but Divine Providence, in whom I confide in this critical moment, has so determined it.

I pardon all my enemies, and beseech my friends not to take any step to avenge me.

My life, educate those amiable children: be happy, which you have not been able to be in the company of the unfortunate

MANUEL DORREGO.

Lieut. Col. Escribano has published a reply to Colonel Pacheco's letter, stating that as the latter had taken up the pen instead of the sword, he (Escribano) should use the same weapon: that the charge of perfidy against him is a direct insult, which the pen ought not to answer: that Pacheco followed with enthusiasm the cause of the Ex-Governor, to whom he was a blind proselyte. That it was his (Escribano's) duty to deliver up to the authorities constituted by the people the person of the Ex-Governor, whose liberty would bring such manifold evils upon the country, and that the good of the country to an officer of honor ought to be paramount to all party considerations; besides, Señor Dorrego was not his friend, and did not throw himself upon the protection of the chiefs and officers who apprehended him, &c. &c.

It is said that an answer to the charges made against the Ex-Governor will appear through the medium of the press at Monte Video. The public will then "hear both sides," and the claims of "even handed justice" become satisfied.

The following has been posted in the British Commercial Room:—

"Mr. Parish presents his compliments to the Chairman of the Committee of British merchants, and begs to acquaint him for the information of the parties interested, that Rear Admiral Sir Robert Otway having received a notification of the blockade of the Colombian ports in the Pacific, recently declared by the Government of Peru, has given orders to the captains and commanders of His Majesty's ships and vessels under his command to respect such blockade, where it is actually maintained by an efficient force; but to re-capture all British merchant vessels which may be taken under a pretence of such blockade, if it be not efficiently maintained by the actual presence of a force off the interdicted port: as well as those who may have been plundered by their captors, or from which the crews shall have been taken out, prior to sentence being passed upon them by a competent tribunal.

"PARISH.

"Thomas Duguid, Esq., Chairman of the Committee of British Merchants, Buenos Ayres."

The Captain of H. M.'s brig *Cadmus* (Sir Thomas Raikes Trigge Thompson, Bart.) is the son of the late Sir Thomas Boulden Thompson, who lost his leg in the battle of Copenhagen in April, 1801, and who was afterwards Governor of Greenwich Hospital.

The Provisional Governor (General Lavalle,) arrived in town on Wednesday evening from Navarro.

The embarkation of stores, &c. by the Brazilians at Monte Video, and the preparations for the final evacuation of that fortress go on with increased activity. The quantity of shot, shells, and ammunition of all sorts is described as immense, and evinces the great importance which the Brazilian Government attached to that place. Almost every day marriages take place between the native girls and Brazilian officers. The Montevidean fair declare they are quite frightened at the furious Patriots. Many sorrowful scenes daily occur at the Mole,—the ladies taking leave of their friends when embarking to follow their husbands. No flag is now hoisted at Monte Video

H. M's. brig Cadmus fired a salute at 8 o'clock, A. M. on the morning of the 21st, the flag of this Republic at the fore, which salute was returned from the Fort.

The French barque Isis fired a salute on the morning of 26th instant, which was answered from the Fort.



MARINE LIST.

PORT OF BUENOS AYRES.



Dec. 20—Wind N. E.

Arr Br. brig of war Cadmus, Thompson, fm Monte Video 18th inst.; Am. brig Brazen, Stafford, Baltimore 15th Oct. and Monte Video 19th inst., 202 bbls. flour, 547 hams, 650 cases soap, gin, tobacco, &c., to Gowland, Slacum & Co.; Brazilian brig Triunfo del Mar, Segueira, Parnagua 1st inst., and Monte Video 19th, yerba and timber, to Gestal.

Sailed, Nat. schr. brig Monte Alegre, for Monte Video.

Dec. 21—Wind E.

Arr. Brazilian schr. of war 1st December, Monte Video, with despatches; Brazilian zumaca Fortuna, fm do., general cargo, to Iturriaga.

Dec. 22—Wind E. S. E.

Arr. French schr. brig Minerva, Roquet, from Rio Grande 27th ultimo, and Monte Video, paper, wine, soap, &c. to F. Llavallo; National schr. brig Paula, Monte Video, general cargo.

Sailed, Sardinian brig Eloisa, Celli, for Gibraltar; National schr. packet Flor del Rio; do. Felicidad del Sud; Brazilian do. Oriental Argentino, Monte Video; French brig Delta, Ronis, Monte Video in ballast;—inserted by mistake as having sailed on 14th instant; National schr. brig of war 29th December, for the Banda Oriental, to convoy troops hither.

Dec. 23—Wind N., shifted about 8, A. M. to the S. with rain.

Arr., Am. schr. Star, Brown, Salem 56 days—called at the Salado, general cargo, to order. Spoke, Nov. 16th, in lat. 3 N. long. 24 W. British brig Calpe, Scott, 48 days fm Monte Video for Liverpool.

Also, Brazilian zumaca Bella Angelica, Monte Video 21st, yerba, to F. Modisto.

Dec. 15—Wind E. N. E., rain.

Arr., National zumaca Buenos Ayres, Pulsiver, Patagonia 16th inst., general cargo, to V. Cazares.

Dec. 25—Wind E. S. E., rain.

Arr., French barque (of war) Isis, Picard, from Monte Video 22d inst.

Dec. 26—Wind E.

Sailed, Br. barque Julius, Collins, for Ensenada; several sail of small craft to the N.

Sailed from the Salado on 8th inst., the British schr. David Campbell, Moore, for the coast of Brazil and the Havana.

The Goldfinch packet was to sail from Monte Video on 19th inst. for Rio and Falmouth; she had not received the least damage.

The American frigate Hudson, Commodore Creighton, arrived at Rio Janeiro 16th ultimo. This officer takes the command of the American squadron upon this station.

The frigate Macedonian, Commodore Biddle, has sailed from Rio Janeiro for the United States.

The American schr. Dromo, from this 10th August, had arrived at New York. The schr. Elisha Tyson, from this in July, had arrived at Baltimore. The schr. Maria, from this 18th July, had likewise arrived there.

H. M's. ships Sapphire and Heron have sailed from Rio Janeiro for the Pacific.

THEATRE.

The opera of the *Barber of Seville* was performed on Saturday last. Doña Angelita sung exceedingly well, particularly in the first aria; indeed we could not discover any falling off in the singing of this lady. This opera is most admirably represented here, with the conjoined talents of Rosquellas, Vacani, and Ricciolini. The house was very indifferently attended, which has been the case lately both on opera nights and those of the regular drama—a sad contrast to former times.

The performers of the opera have announced that they now perform on their own account, in pursuance of a treaty with the late managers, and that they will make every exertion to meet the wishes of the public, it being their interest so to do, both as professors and proprietors.

ATTENTION.

A RESPECTABLE young man and his wife without any family wish to engage to attend on a lady and gentleman for any part of England, if they should go within one or two months, and would like to live with them until their departure; should it not be convenient to engage both, the husband would engage a passage in the same vessel. A note addressed to C. H. at this office will be immediately attended to.

PRICE OF SPECIE.

Doubloons, 64 á 64½ dollars each.—Some transactions took place on Saturday in Exchange, which caused Doubloons to decline from 66½ á 60; some even were sold at a lower rate. Since Wednesday they have rallied, and are now looking up.

Spanish and Patriot Dollars, 300 á 310 per cent. prem.—The fall in Doubloons had very little effect upon Dollars, they being at present not only scarce, but in considerable demand.

Gold in bars, 20 quilates, 18 á 19½ rials per quil.—Scarce, and not much done.

Silver in do. 11 dineros, 18½ á 19 rials per dinero.—Scarce, and few transactions made this week.

Plata Macuquina, 275 á 280 per ct. prem.

Six per ct. Stock, 52 á 53 dollars.—The demand considerable, and but few sellers; contracts have been made to receive Stock after the dividend at 52.

Bank Shares, 185 á 190 dollars each.—Considerable inquiry and scarce.

Exchange on England, 12d. per doll.—About £6000 were sold at 12, since which which the demand has been steady at that price.

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

Do. on Monte Video, 225 á 250 per ct. prem.—Scarce, and in great demand.

Hides, ox, best quality, 14 á 15½ dollars per 35 lbs.

Do country, 13 á 14 dollars per do.

Do salted, 12 á 13 dolls. per 35 lbs.

Skins, chinchilla, 20 dolls. per dozen.

Do. nutria, 6 á 7 dolls. per do.

Hair, horse, 12 á 13 dolls. per arroba.

Beef, jerked, 8 á 10 dolls. per quintal.

Horns, 130 á 145 dollars per m.

Discount, 2 per ct. per month.—Scarce.

Flour, 40 á 42 dollars per bbl.